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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE IN NICARAGUA

PA010322 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2117 GMT 31 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 31 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Venezuelan President Luis Herrera Campins who today ended a 3-day visit to Nicaragua said before leaving that the developing countries' foreign debt should be revised.

President Herrera Campins made the statement during a brief news conference he held at the Sandino International Airport shortly before ending the heavy agenda of his official visit to Nicaragua.

The Venezuelan president said his country also suffers the effects of a large foreign debt, something that his government views with concern. He said this in reply to a question on the Nicaraguan Government's efforts to renegotiate its approximately \$1.5 billion foreign debt with the international financial community.

"I have personally been referring to this subject not only since I became the president of Venezuela but since I was a member of the Council of the World Interparliamentary Union. I believe it is a problem that merits greater attention than what it has been given," he added.

He indicated that "the foreign debt of the developing countries is increasing very rapidly with the additional problem that the services of those debts are higher than the investments which the creditor countries make in our nations so in fact capital is being drained from our economies."

Herrera Campins added that his government has already brought up this problem. He said it is urgent that formulas be sought to permit the renegotiation of the debt through the conversion of short-term loans to long-term loans and to open opportunities for development programs that can reduce dependence, particularly of a financial nature.

The Venezuelan president said he will be getting in touch with the Mexican Government, the other great petroleum producer of the area,

to reach an agreement by which Mexico and Venezuela will distribute between themselves the supply of fuels to the Central American and Caribbean countries.

"Such an action is an essential duty of continental solidarity. If it is achieved, Venezuela would use the funds now allocated to guarantee the supply of petroleum to the countries of the area to help the balance of payments of the Central American and Caribbean countries, particularly Nicaragua," he stressed.

The Venezuelan president said his Christian Democratic Government's position on this has the support of the Venezuelan parties which in his country "freely exercise their opposition and which understand the need for this cooperation and active solidarity with the countries of the area."

Asked his opinion about the development of the Sandinist revolutionary government, President Herrera Campins stressed the agreements signed with Nicaragua in which his government promises to provide technical and financial aid to Nicaragua.

Venezuelan Ambassador Guillermo Yopez Boscan read the agreements to help Nicaragua in the energy, agricultural, cultural, public administration, sports and private sector fields.

"These agreements are in themselves an example of my confidence in this Sandinist process. They indicate the Venezuelan people's and government's position of cooperation so that this revolution which has begun with the exercise of power after the overthrow of the long Somoquist dictatorship will truly reach the objectives expressed in its initial documents," he said.

Herrera Campins stressed that the fundamental statutes of the Nicaraguan revolutionary government guarantee the institutionalization of a democratic state of social progress in which the Nicaraguans can exercise the freedoms they were denied for so many years.

CSO: 3010

SANDINISTS BEING TRAINED BY COSTA RICAN GUARD

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 2A

[Text] Costa Rican authorities reported that 40 Sandinists are not receiving military training but police training at La Reforma social rehabilitation center in San Antonio de Belen.

That instruction complies with an offer that the Costa Rican Government made to the Nicaraguan Junta of National Reconstruction to help them restructure the Nicaraguan police system, according to Col Alvaro Sanchez Monestel, director of the Police School.

Colonel Sanchez explained that the Nicaraguan Government asked that 40 youths--whose ages range from 18 to 22--be trained so that they could become police instructors in their own country.

These statements by the school director came after liberationist deputy Miguel Angel Chavarria Mendez charged at a full session of the Legislative Assembly that the Sandinists are receiving military instruction from the Costa Rican Civil Guard.

He felt that Costa Rica should not become a military training center for other countries.

Nevertheless, Colonel Sanchez Monestel said that these statements misconstrue the truth because the Nicaraguan youths are only receiving police instruction.

Type of Education

The 40 former soldiers of the Sandinist army are learning to protect public property.

Also they are taught about problems the police might face in the daily fight against crime, reported Colonel Sanchez Monestel.

The Nicaraguans have been in Costa Rica for 6 weeks. During this time, they have learned about riot and strike control and have studied "police incidents" in order to make good use of human resources.

According to their program of activities, next week they will hear OIJ [Judicial Investigation Organization] agents explain about investigation of crimes and drug traffic.

Lastly they will meet with officials of the General Directorate for Vehicular Transportation to learn traffic control systems.

Weapon Practice

Colonel Sanchez Monestel stated that the 40 former Sandinists have firearm practice.

He said that they practice with 38-caliber revolvers that the Costa Rican Civil Guard have lent them.

"It is logical that they have that type of practice because any policeman needs a weapon...here or anywhere else in the world," commented the Police School director.

Deputy Miguel Angel Chavarria Mendez charged 2 days ago that Rogelio Vasquez, a Channel 7 cameraman, was almost attacked while trying to film the Nicaraguan training.

According to Colonel Sanchez, that occurred because "they are not used to that type of thing."

He said that possibly there was a lack of direct communication between the reporters and the Civil Guard officers who are instructing the Sandinists.

The cameraman wanted to film the formations and marches of the former soldiers. According to the Civil Guard instructors, these "help achieve greater physical and mental development and the discipline that the police need."

When Col Alvaro Sanchez Monestel was asked about the choice of the La Reforma social rehabilitation center for the training, he revealed that it is a convenient place. The future National Police School is being built there now.

Sandinists Speak

Antonio Malespin, one of the Nicaraguan youths training in San Antonio de Belen, said that they came here to increase their knowledge of police organization.

"If we wanted military instruction, I can tell you that we have many very good instructors in that field in Nicaragua," he stressed.

He stated that the Nicaraguan Government wants to use the Costa Rican police organization as an example to try to establish a similar corps in Nicaragua.

"We came to improve our technology. We were guerrillas and now we want to become policemen," Malespin stated.

Mario Jose Chamorro Espinoza also denied that they are receiving military instruction at La Reforma.

He noted that the Nicaraguan Government pays for their personal expenses and the only thing they want to learn is how to organize an honest and efficient police force in Nicaragua.

The group of 40 former Sandinist soldiers includes two women who will be in charge of organizing a female police corps in Nicaragua.

The Costa Rican Civil Guard lent fatigues to the 40 youths to wear during the training.

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

NICARAGUAN CST SOLIDARITY DRIVE WITH EL SALVADOR

PA022256 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Text] Solidarity events with the struggle of the fraternal Salvadoran people were held here tonight at the Metro Centro Plaza and the Sandinist Workers Central [CST]. The participants stressed that the Salvadoran oligarchy and the military-Christian democratic junta, in collusion with U.S. imperialism, are massacring the heroic people of Agustin Farabundo Marti, precursor of the revolutionary political-military struggle of that fraternal nation.

Comrade Denis Melendez spoke on behalf of the CST. He reiterated the firm solidarity of our people, our workers and our peasants with the just struggle of the Salvadoran people. [begin Melendez recording] Heroic Commander Ernesto Che Guevara told us we should create two, three and many more Vietnams. It was no coincidence, but nations must understand once and for all that our sovereignty and our freedom, as Sandino stated, cannot be debated. We will not wrangle over it. We will achieve and defend our freedom and sovereignty with weapons in hand. [applause; shouts]

Almost certainly the oppressive proimperialist army is marching through San Salvador now ready to kill the fraternal people. But imperialists and world reactionaries, the enemies of our people, will never understand the impetus of the [words indistinct] of society, the workers and people when they decide to break the chains of exploitation with a forcefulness that no human force can stop. How could the imperialists, the enemies of our people, understand this when they only know how to [words indistinct] rifles, cannons, tanks and planes? They said the same thing in Nicaragua. Somoza has so many rifles for so many guardsmen. Somoza has tanks, cannons and airplanes. The Sandinists are a small group of fools with a few rifles. But fortunately for our people, the computers the imperialists use for making their analyses are still incapable of understanding that there is an invincible force, which is the force of the masses, the force of the workers, the force of mankind as a whole [applause] which is ready to bury imperialism once and for all. The computers will never understand this. Fortunately for us

and for future generations, the masses, the workers and peasants, will continue to be the moving force of the revolution.

If Nicaragua triumphed [shouts: "El Salvador will triumph!"].

Nicaragua to the literacy campaign! [shouts]

Free fatherland [shouts: "Or death!"] [end recording]

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

SALVADORAN TRADE BALANCE WITH CENTRAL AMERICA REPORTED

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 4 Mar 80 pp 2, 21

[Text] The Salvadoran trade balance was favorable in inter-Central American exchanges last year, according to Gilberto Lara, director of economic integration of the Ministry of Economy.

This source said with respect to Guatemala, "We have a positive trade balance of 9.7 million colones for the period January-October 1979; the same can be said of our trade with Costa Rica for the same period." He did not cite figures for trade with the last-named country.

Our informant said that Nicaragua was the only country with which El Salvador had a negative balance of trade, amounting to 12.8 million colones; i.e., El Salvador imported 54,153,000 colones worth of products and exported merchandise worth 41,353,000 colones, producing the above-mentioned negative trade balance.

Situation with Honduras

With respect to Honduras, Lara added that a kind of wait-and-see situation is being maintained, despite optimistic statements made by official spokesmen. It is hoped that the situation will normalize so that trade relations can begin. He said that one of the focal points of the negotiations being conducted is the opening of the Pan-American Highway for persons and merchandise.

Our informant added that although the Central American Economic Integration Treaty expires in June of next year, no country can withdraw. What is happening he said is denunciation of this integrationist instrument on the basis of Article 31, as withdrawal would not take place until after 1986.

He said that the economic integration of the area has suffered setbacks because its resolutions have not had sufficient force for coercion; they have been mere recommendations.

"The traditional free-trade policy cannot continue," he said. "We must seek bolder and more practical formulas and mechanisms. That is what El Salvador is providing for in the wording of the new documents which will serve as the framework of the new treaty," the director of economic integration concluded.

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REPORT ON NICARAGUAN STUDENTS IN CUBA

Student Activities

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 9 Mar 80 p 4

[Article by Elsa Pantoja Bano: "Nicaragua--Student, Guerrilla Fighter, Child"]

[Text] As the rays of the sun begin to lose their heat and the sky turns pinkish, one can glimpse among the green of the citrus plantings groups of happy, noisy students, wearing typical Cuban sombreros and toying with their machetes at dusk, after the labor day.

The majority of them, just a few months ago, had a combat trench as their landscape and a rifle for a working tool.

A number of others stand around an athletic field, cheering their favorite basketball team in a game played during their leisure hours.

Others, in their blue outfits, walk along the polished granite passageway, talking in small groups here and there, or avidly reading the books never available to them before.

There are 600 of these Nicaraguan students who have been pursuing courses at the Carlos Fonseca Amador School on the Isle of Youth, to the southwest of Havana, since September.

They became students again after years of closed schools, threats to their lives from bullets or rockets fired with impunity by the soldiers of Anastasio Somoza's tyranny against the people during the civil war which took more than 50,000 lives.

The majority of these students, children or adolescents whose ages range from 14 to 17 and who in some cases are little more than a meter tall, nonetheless grew to the high stature of guerrilla fighters contributing to the liberation of their fatherland after almost 50 years of tyranny.

In the classes at this new school pedagogical concepts about the integral training of children and young people are set forth, for example the idea of combining work and study.

They file in from the fields and on seeing the photographer they strike a stance and hold their machetes against their breasts as if they were rifles.

We asked questions about life at the school, the work in the fields, the use of the machetes, some of which look larger than the young people carrying them.

They are happy to demonstrate to us how efficient they are, cutting the grass to ground level as if to prevent its growing further.

"The school is fine, but now I am anxious to go to the new one," says a dark and lively boy with definite Indian features. He means the facilities being especially built for them near those where they are temporarily housed.

"This work here does not surprise me, because I did it on plantations there, and I had to do it very well or otherwise the owner would not pay me," says another boy, a little taller than the first, with coal-black hair which can be glimpsed under the brim of the sombrero, and a downy fuzz which will become a beard and moustache. And then a general discussion develops about the best cutting techniques and then the cases of grapefruit they harvested that day.

Excellent Students

The teachers at the Carlos Fonseca Amador High School, so named in memory of the founder of the Sandinista National Liberation Front in Nicaragua, said that "these students are doing marvelous work in the fields. So much so that we ourselves are surprised."

On the Isle of Youth, where there are some 60 schools of this kind for students from various countries in Africa and Cubans, there is no high school which has overfulfilled its grapefruit harvesting goals as the Nicaraguans have.

When the work done during the first month of their stay on the island was checked, their production was found to be greater for the same period than for other schools in the zone, winning them the congratulations of the leading authorities in the special municipality.

This attitude is not limited to the farm tasks, for they are "also magnificent" in their classes, according to their teachers, who were selected from the city of Havana on the basis of their personal experience.

"They are very dedicated to study," said teacher Ernesto Buela, who began his teaching work when the revolution was beginning to establish primary boarding schools in beautiful residences abandoned by the wealthy people who left the country in the 1960s.

Buela added that they do not want to leave classes even when they are ill.

"In some cases we have had to persuade students not to come to class," he said.

In this connection, student Joan Bosco Miranda, from Monimbo, in Masaya, explained: "How can I stay away from class because of fever or a cold if I went back into combat when I was in the guerrilla forces even before my wounds were healed, and felt perfectly well?"

And he showed us the scars on his stomach and back.

At the beginning, the teachers pursued a plan for adjusting the levels of the study programs followed in Nicaragua and in Cuba.

For those who needed them, the fundamentals of sixth-grade subjects were taught and stress was placed on such subjects as physics, which is not included in the Nicaraguan study curriculum on that level.

Asked whether the adjusting to his school and his studies was very difficult, David Gutierrez, a 14-year-old combatant in Esteli, said that it was hard work to return to school, but that it is important to be able to do so without having to work to eat.

"The Cuban teachers are our friends, and they help us when we have problems," added Gutierrez, whose face is so young it is hard to believe that the marks on his left arm are battle scars.

Adaptation

Both for the Cuban teachers and the Nicaraguan students, the early days of work meant mutual adjustment. The former were accustomed to the students in this country, who after two decades of the revolutionary process, rarely are behind in school and also have training in the early grades equipping them for enrollment on the secondary level.

The young people from this Central American country were students who had spent several years out of school, or attending school irregularly. Many joined the guerrilla forces while others could only attend classes because they had to work in order to survive or to contribute to the family budget.

We heard of cases such as the following.

At the beginning one of the young people seemed sad and said he wanted to go home. A teacher approached him and they talked at length.

His worry was that, while he had been a student, he had worked as a mechanic earning 25 cordobas (the Nicaraguan currency) per week, money which the family needed.

The teacher was able to persuade him that he should study, that the Sandinista revolution would resolve his family's problems. "Since then we have become such friends that now he calls me mama."

On the other hand, after assuming responsibilities of such magnitude and taking the risks they have as combatants against Somoza's national guard and the mercenaries sent by other countries in the area, it was not easy for these children and young people to return to the concerns suited to their age.

In Nicaragua they were men and women who took part in strife, in obtaining weapons or in clandestine liaison with the guerrilla fighters in the mountains or the combatants in the cities. Now they have returned to their books and the emotional tension of some months ago has relaxed.

In addition, under the tyrannical organization of the Somoza regime, teachers in school institutions were the symbols of repressive authority. Therefore, even though not all supported the regime, teachers were regarded from this viewpoint everywhere.

There was some reason for this attitude, for many teachers mistreated their students and there were cases of teachers known to support the regime who had telephone lines to the security offices of the dictatorship to report the revolutionary activities of the student body.

Last year, by this means, the famous blacklists were drafted, bearing the names of all the students participating in any conspiratorial activity. Systematic persecution of them was pursued.

The repression of students reached the point that in Managua, Masaya and other cities in the country, the sight of the riddled bodies of dozens of young people in the public thoroughfares, was a frequent, almost daily, occurrence.

The victims were not only secondary and higher-level students, for not a few of the children assassinated by the national guard were grade-schoolers.

But the natural initial fears of these young people melted with the loving treatment of the Cuban teachers.

The pedagogical experience of these professional teachers who work closely with the students in all activities was such that it was possible to

distinguish the revolutionary educators, whether Cuban or Nicaraguan, because there is a team of teachers from that country on the staff, from the teachers they had known in Nicaragua.

One of their first impressions was the experience of scrubbing floors with the teachers, sleeping in the dormitories with them, and seeing them wash their own clothes.

"When the teacher put his things in a locker in our dormitory I asked him why, and he explained that he would sleep there. At first I thought it was to punish us or something like that. But he explained to me that this is usual, that respect for the teacher should not be changed because of this, nor should his way of dealing with the students. And so it was," explained young Bayardo Jose Aguilera, from Esteli.

The close bonds enable these young people to see proper relations between students and professors in practice, and now they laugh at the fierce things the propagandists under the tyranny wrote about Cuba, where it was said they kidnapped students to make sausages out of them.

"Since those idiots (guards under the tyranny) said that they brainwashed everybody in Cuba, when they gave us shots in the vaccination campaign I shook my head to see if I felt different, but there was nothing," commented Bayardo Jose, smiling.

On the other hand, these representatives of the new generation in Nicaragua are learning the truth about their country and American history.

For many who had read the clandestine literature provided by the Sandinista Defense Committee, all of these matters were clearly understood.

Another element which contributed to unifying the group was the practice of competition. To this end, it was necessary to establish mechanisms so that the students would not see this as a battle, but a fraternal effort to achieve better results in studies, work, discipline and cleanliness at the school, care of furnishings, the modern laboratories or the sports fields and gardens.

As an example of the characteristics of the students, the teachers at Carlos Fonseca Amador indicate their delight that the shelves of the library are almost empty, because the students have all the books in their dormitories.

They read everything. They have a great desire to know, so that they can be doctors, engineers, architects, technicians. This eagerness to acquire knowledge seems dictated by the fact that today they enjoy a right which had always been denied them.

Reading, visiting the homes of Cuban families, rigorously attending all classes and asking ceaselessly about everything that interests them, they are forging the path which they themselves established with the struggle to oust the Somoza dictatorship.

From the Guerrilla Force to the Classroom

A 16-year-old guerrilla fighter in Matagalpa, Alfredo Garcia Herrera, has had innumerable experiences in the struggle. On being asked his most outstanding impressions of the war in Nicaragua which ended with the revolutionary triumph last 19 July, the young man voiced one phrase--the courage of the people.

Garcia Herrera, who joined the guerrilla force in September of 1978, justifies his answer by saying that he was always confident in triumph despite the fact that the enemy was powerful because of the courage and the boldness of the people.

Now, he said, he will study in order to be more useful to his fatherland.

Armando Espinoza Zamora, a native of Granada, was taken prisoner while preparing for an offensive with a group of young people.

He was subjected to electric shock, beating, acid tossed in the eyes, and blows to the most sensitive parts of the body.

"Courage grows in prison. As one goes crazy after torture and may talk in his sleep, we reached an agreement to take turns on guard so that none of us would say a single word," Armando recounted.

Jeanett Meza Rojas, the sister of the national student leader Francisco Meza Rojas, who disappeared, comes from a family with profound revolutionary roots. She herself was a guerrilla fighter, like her six other brothers and sisters, fighting in the Leon zone, in the northeast and in the frontier areas.

When the civil war began she had a 22-caliber rifle, acquiring more powerful firearms as the battle progressed, so that by the time the fighting ended she had a Galil, made in Israel, which became the synonym for triumph in Nicaragua.

She trained guerrilla fighters in the use of dynamite and fought mercenaries from South Korea, the United States and counterrevolutionaries from Cuba.

She is only 17. Now she is studying so that her mother will not always have to be a peddler selling typical Nicaraguan dishes in order to survive.

They come from Masaya, Leon, Chontales, Esteli, Matagalpa, the heroic city of Monimbo, everywhere in Nicaragua.

They range in color from dark to white, in speech from garrulous to silent or introverted. Many carry bullet scars and others were scarred by the war through the loss of a family member or the memory of the horrors of the bombings or torture.

But in all of them a firm and common determination to create a new Nicaragua can be seen.

Family Members Visit Students

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Mar 80 p 9

[Text] The "old folks" came to Cuba as representatives of the Association of Nicaraguan Parents, whose children are studying in this brotherly Caribbean country, and they found their young people healthy, strong, studious, hard-working and aware of the important role they will play in the immediate future of the Nicaraguan revolution.

They no longer bear any resemblance to those filthy, nervous children, some frightened, others aggressive, all traumatized, in the first post-war months, when they were selected to continue their studies in Cuba.

The New Man

Waldo Garrido, director of the educational center, welcomed the parents and briefly explained to them the new and revolutionary educational system being used in Cuba (and, naturally, at the Carlos Fonseca School), with the coordinated combination of teaching activities in the classroom with productive work in the fields, manual arts workshops, and cultural, sports and recreational activities.

"We are proceeding toward the new man," director Garrido said, "with preparation which is multi-faceted, with integral education."

In fact, this educational system does not allow the young student to bury himself in the general educational textbooks of the basic high school curriculum. Instead it opens up for the student a vast horizon, offering an opportunity to learn about and live various phases of life.

And so one sees the school, one of more than 50 high schools operating on the Isle of Youth, surrounded by fields cultivated by the students themselves under the leadership and guidance of specialized teachers.

And thus one sees the student engaging in various manual-arts tasks in the workshops at that same school. And so we see them making their own beds, cleaning their own dormitories, washing their own clothes, serving each other meals, caring for and beautifying the school gardens, etc., while at the same time they engage in physical exercise, practice various sports on the school's athletic fields, and organize musical, dance, declamation and

theatrical groups. And, naturally, we also see them attending classes, consulting books in the library, and sitting in study halls reviewing classes in groups.

The Schedule

The Nicaraguan parents also spent part of their stay on the Isle of Youth accompanying their children in their normal daily activities. Thus the "old folks," although it was rather chilly, left their beds at 0545 in the morning (0445 in Nicaragua) to be ready for breakfast at 0600 hours. Immediately afterwards they attended the morning ceremony, a political-cultural event organized by the students on their own account every day, with music, poetry and the commemoration of Nicaraguan patriotic events.

At 0700 hours, while half of the students went to the classrooms, the "old folks" accompanied the others to the fields, where a tomato crop was already yielding good fruit at this season.

Parents and children sang and laughed as they went to the fields. They returned at about 1100 hours to refresh themselves and eat something, bathe or shower and then lunch at noon. The young people always returned smiling. The same could not be said for the "old folks," but at least they returned.

Lunch was at 1200 hours. And at 1300 hours those who had been in the fields went to class, and those who had had their classes went to the fields until 1630 hours, when they returned to wash and change. At 1800 hours both groups came together in the study halls to review the subject matter of the day collectively, with the aid of library books and the teachers themselves, who are always available for any necessary consultation.

Also between six and eight, some groups engage in various sports such as basketball, volleyball, etc. And then at 2000 hours, everyone dines, having free time afterwards lasting until 2200 hours at the latest, the hour of "lights out."

On the days the parents accompanied their children in all their activities, they perceived that 2200 hours was indeed time to sleep.

And this schedule is adhered to strictly every day from Monday to Friday, except on Wednesday, when the study hall between 1800 and 2000 hours is optional.

On weekends, some go to the fields to complete some unfinished tasks. Others go on camping excursions with some of the teachers to the beaches or nearby hills, or groups may go to the theater in the city (Nueva Gerona, the main city on the island, has a population of 30,000) or to see a play or ballet. Or they may dance to the music of groups which come to the school on Saturday and Sunday, or see a film in the small theater at the school itself. Or, finally, they may play baseball with teams from other schools.

No Disciplinary Problems

The Nicaraguan parents could see during their stay at the educational center that all of the disciplinary problems which existed in the early weeks have now been overcome.

The parents learned from the teachers and the students themselves that there were serious problems at the beginning, mainly because some students could not adjust to their new life situation.

There is no punishment at the school other than misconduct reports which are added to the school file of any student committing a violation. This fact, in addition to the adaptation problems, traumas of war, etc., made it possible for some students to commit excessive violations of discipline.

However, the teachers utilized all of their capacity for understanding and little by little the children were "won over" until the problems ceased to exist. In the end, there were 25 young people who definitely could not adapt, despite the great effort made by the teachers and their own comrades, and they had to return to our country.

Currently the teachers and students treat each other with great comradeship and respect, and the school has now become a strong competitor with the other 50 on the island both in terms of production levels and educational results. The Nicaraguan school has even won first place in productive activity.

The disciplinary problems which can be seen currently are less serious than the normal problems at any high school: a venture into Nueva Gerona without permission, a concealed cigarette, calling a teacher by an unflattering nickname, eating too many tomatoes between meals--one trick or another to get around the disciplinary regulations of the school, but of no great importance.

Carlos Garcia, the physical education teacher, told the journalists that "we are proud to work with these young people and to help them improve themselves, so that they can render worthy service to the fatherland of Sandino."

5157

CSO: 3010

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

GUATEMALAN EXPORTS TO NICARAGUA--It was reported at the Agriculture Ministry that no more beans will be exported to Nicaragua in view of the fact that it was established that the Government of National Reconstruction was enriching itself with the beans that Guatemala had started to send to Nicaragua. Agriculture Minister Edgar Ponciano Castillo reported this. He said that the Guatemalan beans were being sold to Nicaragua for 9.23 cents per pound but that they were sold at the Nicaraguan market for as much as 0.60 cents per pound [as received]. He concluded by stating that the government had originally planned on exporting 50,000 quintals of beans but that this would be stopped in view of the situation. Only 20,000 quintals had been sent. [Text]
[PA022622 San Salvador Radio Cadena Sonora in Spanish 1700 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

ARTICLES REFLECT ECONOMIC, TRADE EXPANSION EFFORTS

Cooperation With LAFTA

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 19 Mar 80 p 8

[Text] Upon his return to Quito, where he participated as a special guest in a session of the Andean Council, the foreign minister was able to report that the goals of his trip had been fulfilled. He explained Argentina's position on regional integration and the reorganization of LAFTA, and signed a joint declaration and a memorandum of understanding with his colleagues, the foreign ministers of the five Andean nations. Moreover, the Andean Council accepted the invitation tendered it by the foreign minister to hold the second meeting between the two sides in Buenos Aires, in the middle of the year.

A new phase has now started in Argentina's relations with the Andean Group, wherein it will be necessary to progress from the area of discussion to that of concrete accomplishment. Insofar as the reorganization of LAFTA is concerned, both sides will have an excellent opportunity, in the negotiations begun this week in Caracas, and due to continue in Asuncion during May, to prove that their understanding concerning a new means of undertaking regional integration could be converted into an agreement which would have the backing of the other members, and which would be effective.

We have observed on other occasions that, for our country, one of the goals of the reorganization of LAFTA is precisely that of providing a legal and institutional framework that would facilitate the development of practical methods of cooperation with the Andean Group, and with each of the other member nations as well.

In the realm of bilateral relations between the Andean Group and Argentina, there has been agreement on a permanent mechanism for exchanges of information, consultation and coordination, consisting of periodic meetings on the part of our foreign minister with the Andean Council, the organization of ad hoc committees or task forces to deal with specific matters, and a mixed standing committee, comprised of representatives from our country and the ambassadors from the Andean nations accredited to Buenos Aires. The goals

are far-reaching, and relate to both reciprocal relations, and international and regional policy, and coordination in international forums as well. There has also been a reiteration of the force of the mechanism created in 1972, consisting of a joint commission on which concrete activities associated with cooperation on the economic level were to be identified and carried out. Finally, provisions have been made for an early meeting of the respective state secretaries and ministers of transportation and public works, in order to carry out joint action in the area of physical integration, particularly five projects which are priorities for the governments of Bolivia and Peru.

The Andean Group and Argentina now have a work agenda and the necessary means for undertaking joint action. Our country has stated unequivocally its political interest in cooperating with the subregion, and has met with a response. The enactment of the mechanisms planned, the participation of other areas of the government in the task begun by the foreign ministry and the interest and action of the business-owning sector are now the necessary steps for embarking upon the realm of accomplishment.

If these events are added to others anticipated in the relations with Brazil, with other countries which are members of LAFTA and with the Caribbean and Central America, not only shall we be able to confirm the foreign minister's assertion that we are at the start of a new period in regional integration, but we shall also feel that a new, fruitful phase in Argentine foreign policy in Latin America has begun.

Results of Guevara's Trip Abroad

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 23 Mar 80 p 14

[Text] "We have accrued positive, concrete results in our effort to place emphasis on an improvement in the maritime trade with the Middle East, with that part of the world in which millions of people live, constituting an opportunity for new markets toward which we must look as objectives for the not too distant future." This was the statement made by the secretary of maritime interests, Rear Adm Carlos Noe Guevara, at a press conference in which he analyzed the results of his recent trip to the Philippines, China and Japan.

Admiral Guevara placed particular stress on pointing out that this was the first time that an official mission from the country had been represented by all the sectors participating in the industry, and that this exploratory mission marked the beginning of a long road to be traversed, to show off Argentina, which is almost unknown on the Asian continent.

After citing the contacts made in Manila, in the Philippines, in search of complementation between the two maritime industries, he said that that country had expressed an interest in importing dry salted fish and krill.

Rear Admiral Guevara said that one of the purposes of the mission was to find a port with sufficient storage space for coal and grain; because the former product is an import item, and the latter, one for export. This port would have to possess special features, such as those allowing for the operation of vessels of over 100,000 tons, to reduce costs. He noted that certain areas had been observed, but that the study still needed to be continued. With regard to his visit to China, he said that the obstacles which had made the agreement signed in Peking during 1978 impracticable to date had been overcome, and that, from now on, both countries would notify each other of storage requirements. The official stated that, in Japan, he had requested technical assistance in preventing erosion in the gorges of the Paraguay River, in Formosa, and in obtaining equipment for the fishing schools. As for his recent contacts in the country with officials from the sector in the United States and Korea, he noted that the agreement on freight charges had been ratified with the former, and that a deadline would be set for the latter concerning the option to establish fishing industries in the southern part of the country.

Fixed Percentages

Finally, and in connection with the freight charges for ships with third nation registry in the trade with the country to the north, he said that Argentina had requested that the percentage assigned to the owners of those ships with third nation registry be granted in fixed percentages, and that priority be given to the ship-owners who use the vessels of both countries rather often when they find that their cargo capacity has been exceeded.

Significant New Contacts

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 23 Mar 80 Sec 3a pp 2, 3

[Excerpts] After General Goodpaster's visit in January, it became obvious that the United States had a renewed interest in our country, and a particular concern for improving the relations which had deteriorated markedly since 1977. A direct result of this new attitude in Washington was the visit made by the U.S. assistant secretary of commerce 10 days ago, during which he offered our country over \$1.2 billion in financing for 20 projects, including the Yacyreta dam.

This visit has initiated a period of intensive contacts abroad, wherein the economic issue has been present at all times. Of course, the most prominent of all was the presence of the Italian minister of foreign trade, whose talks with the Argentine Government established the possibility of close cooperation in such widely diversified areas as food technology, railroad modernization, trade expansion and the construction of expressways. But a representative also came from the United States, to arrange for shipping agreements; and another important visit has been announced, for a discussion of atomic energy matters. This topic of nuclear development has become one of those most often discussed in foreign negotiations. It has

also been discussed by visitors from Germany and Brazil (since the signing of a contract for the manufacture of heavy water with a Swiss firm).

Particularly noteworthy in the strictly Latin American area is the foreign minister's trip to Quito, to attend the Andean Pact meeting (at which he cited points of agreement, but differences as well); and the participation in the preparatory meeting for the LAFTA assembly, at which the Argentine representative made a formal proposal for a mechanism that would make it possible to resume the progress toward development of intraregional trade. And there were also the annual visit of the technical mission from the Inter-American Development Bank (with which our country hopes to arrange transactions this year involving the usual sum of about \$200 million), the talks with Brazil regarding nuclear energy and communications by satellite; and, with a set date, the annual assembly of the IDB in Rio de Janeiro, and the visit by the president of Brazil in May.

As may be observed, there is a complete and varied schedule of important international contacts demonstrating the extent to which the country has succeeded in regaining its prestige, after having bolstered its financial position, as is well known.

The Private Institutional Investors

Almost simultaneously with the visit of the U.S. assistant secretary of commerce and virtually at the same times as the sending of a bill to reform the law on foreign investments to the CAL [Legislative Advisory Commission], a group of institutional investors from the United States also visited our country. As we know, the reform to the law on investments tends to facilitate the participation of foreign investors in our country's stock market trading, with restrictions on the proportion of the capital that each one (and all of them combined) can purchase. The North American institutional investors are the entities (mutual investment funds, insurance companies and pension funds) which resort to the stock market to obtain income return and liquidity for the capital that they administer, while simultaneously contributing a steady flow of funds to the paying companies.

The visitors made contacts here with the authorities from the stock market institutions. They were headed by directors of Salomon Brothers, a New York "investment bank," and the group also included officials from Morgan Guaranty, the Chemical Bank and the College Retirement Equity Fund (which administers funds for teachers' pensions), and administrators of mutual funds, such as the Capital Research Company. A few hours earlier, representatives of the Banque Rothschild of Paris had also been in Buenos Aires for the same exploratory purpose.

These visits caused understandable expectations in stock market circles, but it was pointed out that, in the event of a possible increase in the capital stock demand with funds of external origin, the market would not be in a

position to respond promptly with an increase in supply, and probably not with a sufficient variety of securities either. It would be necessary (it is claimed) to promote an increase in new issues and, in particular, a diversification of the market, with securities having new features which would be capable of responding to a sophisticated demand.

Interest in Caribbean

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 22 Mar 80 p 5

[Text] Yesterday, the undersecretary of international economic relations, Commodore Raul A. Cura, held a brief conversation with the newsmen accredited to San Martin Palace, during which he reported on the mission for political and economic rapprochement which will depart tomorrow to visit certain Caribbean countries, as we announced, and which he will head.

The mission, comprised of officials from the Ministries of Foreign Relations and Economy, will pay a 12-day visit to Barbados, Santa Lucia, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Guyana.

Commodore Cura remarked: "The visit is related to the overall objectives of our foreign policy in the various regions into which the international community is organized, which in this case include a group of countries in the American area."

Commodore Cura pointed out that the increasing political and economic importance of the Caribbean, the attainment of independence by new nations in the region (as in the case of the English-speaking countries) and their active participation in international and regional organizations have made it necessary for Argentina to attempt to intensify its relations, after having collaborated in such multilateral forums as the UN, OAS and SELA.

Objectives

The purpose of the mission is to carry out initiatives which will strengthen our country's relations with each of those that it will visit; and, in each instance, procedures and mechanisms will be proposed which will make it possible to engage in effective cooperation in the scientific and technical fields. An attempt will also be made to establish and increase trade relations, and financial cooperation for purchases in our country will be offered.

Specifications

Although Commodore Cura chose not to make predictions about the negotiations that the mission headed by him will conduct, we can announce that, with Santa Lucia, for example, it will try to place emphasis on the agricultural and livestock area, especially regarding the development of the Brahman

bovine breed. It was learned that Argentina will soon make a donation of selected specimens to that nation.

Donations of wheat will also be made to other countries; gestures which are related to the mechanisms for food assistance that our country has established.

It was reported that another one of these countries to be visited has a particular interest in the purchase of fruit juice processing "key in hand" plants, as well as in machinery for processing food products.

Ambassadors Briefed

Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 22 Mar 80 p 5

[Text] Yesterday, the president of the nation, Lt Gen Jorge Rafael Videla, received our country's ambassadors to Central America, the United States and the Caribbean, who were accompanied by Foreign Minister Pastor. He summoned them to a meeting for the purpose of having them report on their activity and receive instructions. The meeting took place the day before yesterday and yesterday, at the San Martin Palace; and, during the course of it, Brig Maj Carlos W. Pastor gave a detailed account to the chiefs of mission concerning various aspects of national political life and affairs, and the goals of Argentine foreign policy.

The Topics

A report from the foreign ministry states that an analysis was made of the bilateral relations between Argentina and the countries with which the ambassadors conduct their diplomatic negotiations, the multilateral relations of the nations on the continent and the role of the OAS, from our country's standpoint.

The report goes on to say that the topics discussed included Argentine nuclear policy; the political bases of the Armed Forces in the national reorganization process; the status of the papal mediation regarding the demarcation of the southern zone; an analysis of the treatment given the issue of human rights in the international forums; negotiations with Great Britain concerning the Falkland Islands; the Argentine presence in Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Asia; the new approach with which the relations between our country and the United States are proceeding; and the trip that the undersecretary of international economic relations, Commodore Cura, will take tomorrow to the Caribbean nations, on which we are reporting separately.

Final Instructions

At the meeting with Lt General Videla, the latter "gave them the final instructions for the future negotiations that the diplomats will have to hold."

2909

CSO: 3010

'GIANT' GASFIELD FOUND IN SUCRE

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Feb 80 pp 1-A, 2-A

[Text] Yesterday, the government revealed the discovery of a huge natural gas well in Sucre Department.

Alberto Vasquez Restrepo, minister of Mines and Energy, stated that it is a question of the Castor I well, being explored by International Petroleum Company (INTERCOL).

Vasquez said that the first measurements indicated that there is an approximate potential equal to 10 million barrels of oil.

In terms of gas, strictly speaking, the figure equals between 50 and 60 million cubic feet a day.

Minister Vasquez pointed out that the well may prove to be even larger, because tests have not been completed.

He stated that it has been verified that the discovery area favors very much the belief that there are large gas deposits in the subsoil.

In addition, the minister reported that active work is being done on the oil exploration plan all over the country to exceed the goals attained in 1979.

"Soon, there will be a good announcement for the country in this connection," Vasquez remarked, but he abstained from going more into detail .

10,042
CSO: 3010

MINES MINISTER DISCUSSES FUTURE OF COAL

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 21 Feb 80 p 14-A

[Report by Esperanza Talero on statement made by Alberto Veszquez Restrepo, minister of Mines and Energy, in connection with opening a seminar on "Synthetic Application of Coal," held in Bogota 20-21 February 1980]

[Text] Colombian coal, which has been buried in oblivion for years and with very dismal prospects, will now come out of the depths of mines to become one of the leading energy resources and new source of foreign exchange for this country.

The oil crisis is what got to the bottom of the problem to make governments, and ours with them, turn their eyes toward the black mineral.

Colombia, with abundant coal reserves, is now facing a bright future to the point that, according to what was announced by the minister of Mines and Energy, Alberto Vaszquez Restrepo, the country will be able to export coal in 1982.

The revelation by the minister coincides with the opening, yesterday, in Bogota, of a seminar on "Synthetic Application of Coal," which will be concluded today.

The Minister Speaks

The minister stated: "The seminar is being held for the purpose of studying what progress has been made at present by technologies in converting coal into liquid and gaseous fuels, because there is not doubt that the energy future of the whole world is going to be based, to a considerable extent, on coal, used as coal directly or as a producer of liquid and gaseous fuels.

"For those reasons," he continued, "this government decided, from the time that it took office, to open up that doorway, to seek to have coal become a fast replacement for gasoline, stimulating coal mining in addition, because the country had a very low production for meeting its relatively

small needs that it had established to take care of part of the demand for energy."

Vasquez Restrepo said, in connection with the programs to be carried out with regard to exploration, that this year is going to be really a stellar year owing to the number of projects that are going to be implemented and for which considerable achievements have already been obtained.

Promotion of Exploration

He noted that "when we encountered the serious problem of the dependency that Colombia has at present on foreign countries to meet a good part of its energy demand, we not only decided to promote oil exploration strongly in every area of the country, but, at the same time, all emphasis is being placed on preparing the country so that it may become a great coal producer, in order to meet its own domestic needs and for export, within programs that are perfectly established and underway that are enabling us to assure that, in 1982, the central area of El Cerrejon will begin to produce from 300,000 to 400,000 metric tons of coal a year, increasing up to 5 million metric tons that the central area should attain in 1988."

In addition, when he reported on what will apply to the northern area, where there is a contract with INTERCOL, he stated that coal should begin to be produced there in 1984 and reach a minimum of 18 to 20 million metric tons in 1990.

Since World War II

When he discussed the applications of coal, which have progressed very rapidly today in processes for converting it to gasoline, he stated:

"It is a technology dating back to World War II, when the Germans were obliged to use their coal to produce gasoline. Thus, they were able to take care of their gasoline requirements at extremely high costs, but, at that time, the cost of that gasoline was not important. Then, with a basis on those technologies that developed from that time on, Germany ceased promoting them, for a thousand reasons."

South African Example

Moving forward in time, the minister arrived at the present time:

"When this energy crisis occurred at the beginning of the decade, Germany and all the developed countries then began to accelerate work on the utilization of coal to convert it into gasoline. South Africa is among them and is the most advanced country in this matter, because it has been blockaded by part of the Arab countries, which do not sell gasoline to it. There, it threw itself into a project that started in 1976 and that should be concluded next year, for deriving gasoline from coal in a volume that

will amount to a billion gallons a year by 1981, equal to Colombia's total consumption.

"If Colombia had the plant called SASOL [South African Coal, Oil and Gas Corporation] 2, whose construction is now being completed in South Africa, we would have all the gasoline that we need, produced by coal, and we would have no problems," he revealed.

"Those billion gallons of gasoline require the use of 17 million metric tons of coal. This is no problem for this country. We have been exploring every technology in that connection. We have invited South African, German, French, British, Canadian and American technicians to come here to inform us on what each country is doing with regard to the utilization of coal," he stated.

Taking Advantage of Experience

He also said that, owing to high costs, Colombia has no research capability and he concluded that it is necessary to continue to take advantage of those technologies that are very advanced at the present time.

"The circumstance has occurred," he offered as an example, "that Colombia has received very important proposals for the construction of plants that will produce gasoline, either from coal or gas.

"In spite of the fact that, at present, there are no technologies yet, there are no countries that have plants of that size installed, very large ones, with the exception of South Africa where they are being installed. EXXON, which is the mother company of INTERCOL, which is associated with ECOPETROL [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise] for exploitation of the northern area of El Cerrejon, accepted a request made of it by CARBOCOL [Colombian Coal Company] for EXXON to bring us a series of technicians to explain the basic topics to us," the minister reported.

This proposal resulted in the event meeting in Bogota and on which the minister of Mines is very optimistic, according to his own words:

"Undoubtedly, the seminar is going to leave us important knowledge on the latest progress with regard to the conversion of coal to gasoline or natural gas to gasoline, which is what we are considering. On those conditions is based the absolute belief that this country would have, in coal, the replacement needed to meet our needs, by the middle of this decade, even if we should not find enough oil, which seems little likely to happen."

Program

The seminar on "Synthetic Applications of Coal," which is meeting in the Hotel Tequendama, includes the following lectures for its final session today:

"Inventory of Technologies on Coal Liquefaction," by Dr A. M. Goldstein; "Administration of Large Coal and Synthetic Fuel Projects," reported on by Dr G. R. Desnoyers; "Development of EXXON's EDS Process for Direct Liquefaction of Coal," by Dr Goldstein; "Technology for the Recovery of Very Heavy Oil," by Dr D. L. Stepanek, and "Survey of EXXON's Activities in Connection with Coal and Synthetics," by Dr. C. A. Casey.

In view of the government's optimism and the decision to take advantage of the experience of other countries, a brilliant future awaits coal. It might almost be said that Colombia's rich deposits are waiting only for man to decide to sink his pick hammer for the benefits of this now valuable mineral to spring forth.

10,042

CSO: 3010

FORMER MINISTER HOYOS ARANGO PROPOSES NEW MONETARY SYSTEM

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 25 Feb 80 p 19-A

[Report by Benjamin Losada on statements made by former minister Samuel Hoyos Arango, in a press conference arranged by the Colombian Newspapers Association]

[Text] In the middle of the explosive monetary burdens being carried by the country, a new system is proposed for checking their effects on the economy.

Former minister Samuel Hoyos Arango states that the time has come to prevent the "monetization" of foreign exchange, so that its fast-moving rate may not overflow into the cost of living, as is happening at present.

It all consists in the following: the Bank of the Republic would deliver to the party concerned a negotiable document representing his foreign exchange, and only with this could payments be made abroad, either for authorized imports, debts and other transactions peculiar to trade.

Hoyos Arango maintains that it is the first consistent formula proposed to the country in this connection, in spite of the constant concern of economists and even of neophytes over the excess monetary supply resulting primarily from transactions with foreign countries.

At present, international reserves exceed \$4.3 billion, and in the single month of January, they increased by \$160 million. This jeopardizes "monetary stability," because that money coming from abroad is precisely what is making it difficult to manage the economy.

If it were not for the massive flow of foreign exchange, there would not be the present "exchange bonanza" and, consequently, the government would not be involved in preventing monetization or in decreasing money supply.

"But at no time should it revalue. That would be counterproductive," Hoyos said in a loud voice. Before going fully into his presentation, he stated that revaluation would be fatal.



Former Minister Samuel Hoyos
Arango

A Political Evil

The former minister participated in the press conference arranged by the Colombian Newspapers Association (ANDIARIOS) and first of all he stated that every democracy totters when the inflation rate stands at 30 percent, a figure that Colombia is approaching.

"We are all familiar with examples of countries under the heel of the military, precisely because of a rise in costs, and with the system that I propose [rest of paragraph garbled] vehemence who was minister of Justice in the Lopez Michelsen Administration. [sic].

In his opinion, it was a feat for the minister of Finance, Jaime Garcia Parra, to have succeeded in having the means of payment (money in circulation) reach a growth limit close to 24 percent at the end of 1979.

Last year, international reserves increased over \$1.6 billion and that strong expansion factor was managed well, at least in the opinion of: Hoyos Arango.

Mechanics

Next, the former minister indicated the basic points of the new mechanics:

Everyone will continue to turn over their foreign exchange to the Bank of the Republic.

The bank would deliver the negotiable document (kind of exchange certificate).

The person acquiring it would only be able to use the document in transactions with foreign countries.

According to his estimates, if foreign exchange is not bought from the issuer, a drop in the quotation of the dollar would occur. This would not be drastic. In the opinion of Hoyos Arango, it would at no time be lower than 35 pesos, when at present the exchange rate is close to 44.50 pesos.

Then, a compensatory step or "tax on foreign drafts," would be taken. Then 35 pesos would be paid for one dollar, plus 10 pesos in tax. This would equal the exchange rate in effect at present, if the rate of 45 pesos is taken.

The tax would fluctuate. If the dollar rises from 35 pesos to 37 pesos, the tax would be 8 pesos.

The total amount of the tax, according to Hoyos Arango, would be used for subsidizing exports other than coffee.

If the rate of exchange goes down, smuggling and illegal activities would be completely eliminated, according to the proposal.

Hemorrhage Sutured

In the opinion of the former minister, "once the artery causing the hemorrhage of pesos because of the purchase of foreign exchange, as is happening at present, has been sutured, it would be possible to dismantle again the anti-inflationary apparatus that has been set up at present: high interest, very high reserves, suspension of public works. Above all, the dizzy increase in the level of prices caused by the creation of money by the purchase of foreign exchange would be stopped."

That is the strategy advocated zealously by Hoyos Arango.

How far would it be possible to control the black market in foreign exchange or the effect of the clandestine economy on the country? Perhaps your system would be effective? the exponent was asked. He stated that the remedy would be effective without any doubt, although the skepticism peculiar to these initiatives may occur.

Almost Panacea

Hoyos Arango admitted, when pressed by the very many questions, that in spite of his conviction on the goodness of the mechanism for punishing

"unfaithful foreign exchange," it may be said that it would cost something, but that, in economics, no panacea is obtained. "On the contrary, it is necessary to weigh, in order to choose the best."

He assured that "if the country looked at the scope of the initiative, it surely would take a great step forward."

But, how can the flow of "unfaithful foreign exchange" be contained, if smuggling, underbilling and the other activities that show up at present in the inventory of the clandestine economy are easily camouflaged, owing to their very nature? If taxes are evaded, how is it not going to be possible to profiteer with the supposed issuer documents?

With a drop in the exchange rate, it is possible to presuppose an increase in inbound smuggling, he admits, but he points out, nevertheless, that this is not the product of dollars coming from abroad. "Inbound smuggling is financed by outbound smuggling."

And he also pointed out the following: "When we export contraband coffee, cattle, marihuana and cocaine, the dollars produced in that way that cannot be sold on the official market are sold on the black market, in order to import contraband, or they are used by the outbound smugglers themselves to import inbound contraband. A drastic drop in outbound contraband immediately causes a limitation on inbound contraband."

Moreover, if the drug problem continues, Hoyos Arango pointed out that "we shall have to think seriously of ridding ourselves of the problem once and for all and not allow the high rate of drug use in other regions of the world impose on us that category of leading exporters."

"It would be advisable to state the case under other terms, no longer monetary, but rather of government-to-government agreements."

Hoyos Arango rounded off in that way his proposal "that I hope will be studied extensively," according to his aspiration.

10,042
CSO: 3010

ATRATO INTEROCEANIC CANAL CONSTRUCTION

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 24 Feb 80 pp 1-B, 4-B

[Article by Engineer Luis Monsalve Cuberos]

[Text] Colombia should construct the Atrato Interoceanic Canal. This idea is gaining ground and is not new. The United States contracted, 10 years ago, for a preliminary study of the possible route, but, unfortunately it was never concluded.

The precarious circumstances under which Colombia's right to free passage through the Panama Canal finds itself and which we shall lose now or within 20 years, make it necessary to seek our own solution.

What are the possibilities for another canal in Central America?

There is a feasible route in Nicaragua through the lake of the same name, but the success of this project loses force, owing to the recent establishment of a communist government in that country. This circumstance favors Colombia, because it eliminates a potential competitor.

The political situation in Central America has become complicated in recent months and there may be a leftist coup in El Salvador any time now, without counting out Costa Rica, if Carazo does not wake up. A country without an army is involved and it is well known that the communists do not go in spontaneously. The daily serenade of Radio Continente is softening the ground.

With regard to Panama, it would be a more remote but foreseeable objective. Its independent lifetime is not an example of stable governments and its democracy does not seem to be very solid. The myth of the strong man persists there. Countries like that are much desired by the so-called communist liberators.

If the possibility of keeping the Panama Canal open to the free peoples of the world proves to be hazy in the future, any sealevel canal attempted through that territory lacks strategy. At least an alternate canal is needed that can function when something unfavorable occurs in Panama.

In view of that state of affairs, the Colombian solution of the Atrato Canal comes up, free of political difficulties and technically possible.

Capacity of the Panama Canal

Let us review the characteristics of this canal which is already proving to be obsolete because of its present capacity. Completed 66 years ago, its locks have a useful width of only 100 feet (30.5 meters) and a length of 1,000 feet (305 meters). The width or beam of tankers and cargo ships has increased considerably in recent years with an increase in their transportation capacity. The simple explanation is that a large ship is more profitable.

In Lloyd's 1978 Ship Registry, there are over 170 ships with beams ranging between 100 and 229 feet, half of which exceed the 1,000-foot length. Aircraft carriers exceed 250 feet in beam and 1,000 feet in length.

The length of the canal is 82 kilometers and its maximum traffic capacity is 48 ships in 24 hours. In 1972, statistics came up with an average of 41.5 ships a day.

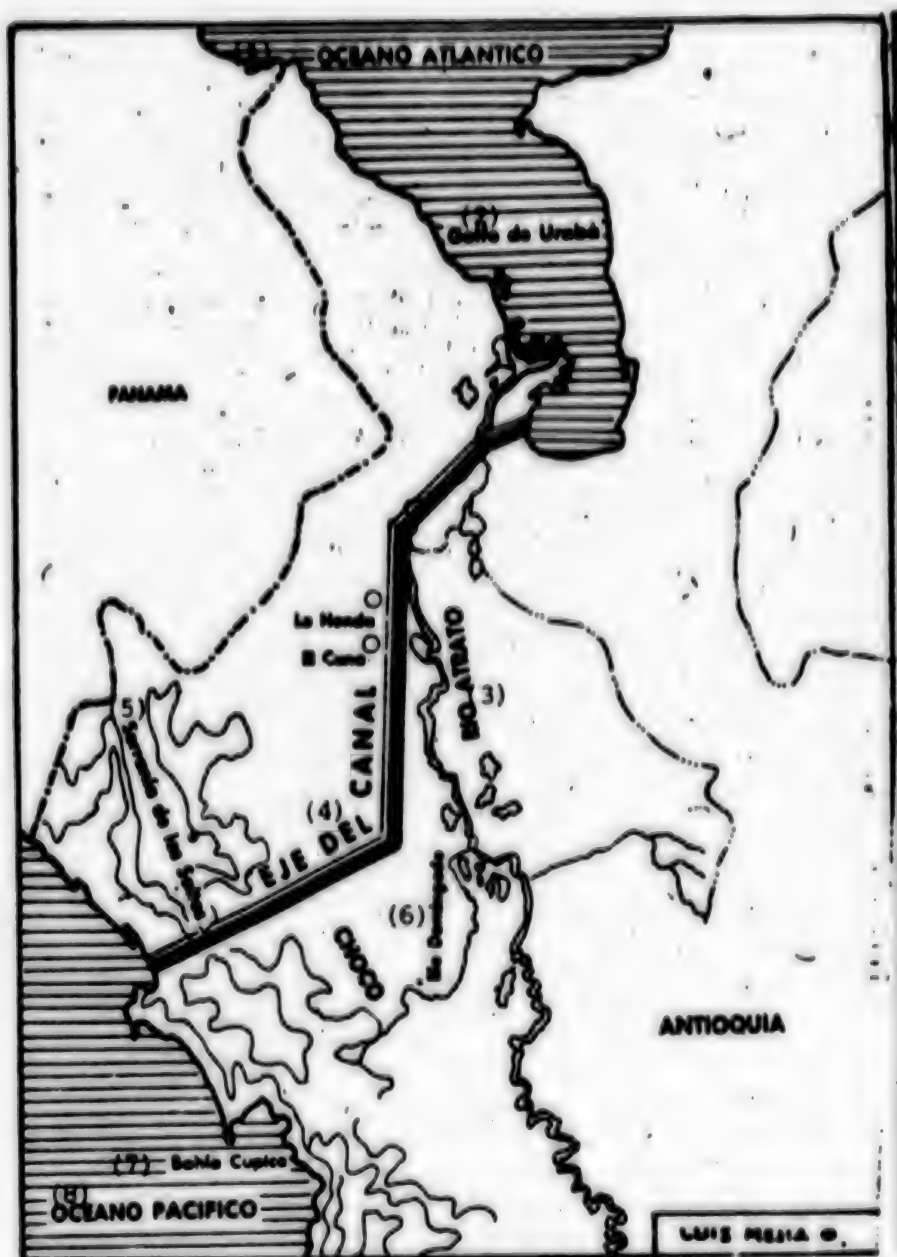
According to the latest data, the giant oil tankers under construction exceed a displacement of 800,000 tons and their dimensions are impressive. The result is that, in a few years, most of the world's fleet will be unable to pass through the Panama Canal.

Route for the Atrato Canal

By observing the existing incomplete cartography, a possible route has been found in a very sketchy manner that can serve as a guide for feasibility studies.

Humboldt Bay and Octavia Bay, in the Pacific, apparently have port features usable as an antecanal by constructing some protective structures for the maritime terminal.

If the first-mentioned bay is taken, for example, and the locality of Guatin is taken as point of departure, a straight line is followed until it meets the bed of the Truando River. By taking advantage, in part, of this bed, continue on the same straight line to a point near a place called Las Mellizas, at the outlet of Ramon Canyon. Continuing in an almost northerly direction, the axis is oriented now to find the bed of the Atrato River opposite La Honda and continuing along the river, after making a cut at the Puerto Lopez curves or bends, a shift to the right is made to reach finally Colombia or Leon Bay in the Gulf of Uraba. At this place, the antecanal has special port facilities. The variant would consist in utilizing Octavia Bay as an antecanal on the Pacific, lengthening the canal by about 5 kilometers.



Key: 1. Atlantic Ocean; 2. Uraba Gulf; 3. Atrato River; 4. canal axis; 5. Los Saltos Range; 6. Domingado River; 7. Cupica Bay; 8. Pacific Ocean.

The route described has the following characteristics:

Dry cut in a staggered trapezoidal section, with 50 and 100-meter level curves, for an approximate length of 50 kilometers. Wet cut with dredging 70 kilometers long. Utilization of the bed of the Atrato River with dredging and straightening for a length of 34 kilometers. Total length: 154 kilometers; width at the bottom of the dry cut section: 250 meters;

width in the rest of the canal: 280 to 300 meters; minimum depth: 60 feet (18.3 meters); minimum curvature radius: 5 kilometers. We should have liked to use the fine Cupica Bay, but the 500 and 700-meter elevations presented by the mountain range behind it make an acceptable layout impossible.

I do not know if higher elevations than the ones shown on the map may be encountered when a detailed survey is made, but it seems that a depression in the range has been gone through. Finally, the average capacity of the canal would be some 190 ships in 24 hours, or four times the capacity of the Panama Canal.

Magnitude of the Job

The most important item in this project is excavation. If we make a cut in the first 50 kilometers of the project, the result is a prism whose volume comes close to 1 billion cubic meters. At first sight, this figure seems to be out of orbit, but it is not, if it is compared with the total excavation in Panama, which amounted to 200 million cubic meters in times of limited technology.

If conditions of the Culebra Cut in Panama prevail, from 60 to 70 percent rocks would have to be expected in this cut, but it is very likely that these percentages will prove to be lower.

With regard to the wet cut with dredging for the rest of the canal, which has quite a lower unit cost, some 400 million cubic meters would have to be moved.

New methods and the performance of equipment available today make it possible to achieve this great job. Colombian consulting engineering is fully qualified for making the project studies. Financing plans and construction plans will depend on the solidness of those studies.

According to the 30 June 1918 accounting of the Panama Canal, the total cost of the canal was \$348,870,782. The item of excavation represented about 40 percent of this amount and the lock system 26.6 percent. With these data, we are tempted to estimate a probable cost of our Atrato Canal, assuming that excavation may have a weight of 55 percent in a sea-level canal and leaving the remaining 45 percent for other items, like protective breakwaters, maritime terminals, power and communications, aids to navigation, health, defense, and so on. But it is prudent to await the feasibility studies, in order to arrive at accurate conclusions.

10,042
CSO: 3010

PAPER INTERVIEWS CONGRESS VICE PRESIDENT

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 5 Mar 80 p 4

[Interview with deputy Leticia Chacon Jinesta, vice president of Congress, by Wilmer Murillo: "Madrigal Should Be Unidad Candidate"]

[Text] It is predictable that the Calderonist sector of Unidad will fight a hard battle to elect foreign minister Calderon Fournier as the presidential candidate.

The risk of nominating a "foreign" candidate will be the theme of the Calderonist process to impose "Junior."

What about the ideas of other leaders with similar views who hope to be nominated as the presidential candidate? According to deputy Leticia Chacon Jinesta, vice president of Congress and our subject this week, the choice should respond to the verdict of the majority. However, she feels that the best prepared man for that position in Unidad is Rodrigo Madrigal. Antiliberalism is a quantitative force in elections.

However, there is a problem because those ideological trends neutralize each other. Also no one discards the possibility that an internal fight, in which the Calderonists feel that without their own candidate they would be denying their way of life, could lead to the end of the coalition even before the next elections. Leticia Chacon Jinesta feels that the right to the candidacy does not belong to Calderonism alone but also to the other groups in the Unidad party which, with their support and effort, made Mr Carazo's election a resounding triumph.

[Question] What procedure, in your opinion, should Unidad use to choose its presidential candidate?

[Answer] In my opinion, the procedure will be established by the political directorate headed by former president J. J. Trejos. This

organization must establish the norms for this electoral process. This will be done within the clear and well defined limits of an essentially democratic party in which the popular will will always be the maximum expression.

[Question] If you had to choose between a Calderonist candidate like Calderon Fournier and one of another sector of the coalition like Mr Rodrigo Madrigal, which would you pick?

[Answer] I think that this will never be a problem for the members of Unidad. First, because it cannot be stated that only two people will run as nominees. Second, because when the presidential candidate is selected, the losing candidates will stop representing their own sectors and, respecting the verdict of the majority, will support the candidate selected with the same enthusiasm and determination shown in Mr Rodrigo Carazo Odio's election.

[Question] What do you think of Calderonism?

[Answer] Calderonism is one of the four parties in the Unidad coalition. It has offered its intelligent efforts and active participation to consolidate the aspirations of thousands of Costa Ricans who, by their votes in the past election, showed the need to form a permanent party to balance our political system.

[Question] Do you believe in the alleged right of the Calderonist sector to elect a candidate from their group since they helped in Mr Carazo Odio's victory? Do you believe that Carazo could have won without the Calderonist support?

[Answer] I feel that Calderonism has not an alleged but a complete right to elect a candidate from their group if the verdict of the majority decides that. Then he would be the candidate not of their group but of the Unidad party. That legitimate right not only belongs to Calderonism but also to the other groups in the Unidad party because the other sectors showed the same enthusiasm, determination, sacrifice and active participation which made Mr Carazo's election a resounding victory.

[Question] Would you say that the Calderonists are, proportionally and electorally, the primary force of the Unidad coalition?

[Answer] In your questions you insist on presenting Calderonism and the other political groups as separate parts of Unidad. You must remember that efforts are oriented toward the consolidation of a single party established in the last campaign. Unidad was a party that consolidated its political structure not only with the four parties in the coalition but opened its doors to all citizens who wanted a richer concept that insured the full realization of all Costa Ricans.

[Question] In general terms, who do you think is the best man to represent Unidad for the new presidential term and why?

[Answer] There are prominent Costa Ricans in the Unidad party who have many merits for the presidency of the republic. They all inspire respect and admiration in me but I feel that Mr Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto especially meets a number of conditions. He is intelligent, capable and has an extraordinary mental acuity that permits him to discuss the major topics from a statesman's perspective. He has valuable experience in the business field and stands out for his fighting spirit and executive ability. He has shown great ability in the field of journalism. For many years, he shaped public opinion, establishing with clarity and precision the cause of the major problems in our country.

He initiated major campaigns from this newspaper, LA REPUBLICA, to denounce problems that affected the dignity of Costa Ricans. He is a prominent citizen of recognized moral integrity and culture. He knows the world situation well which gives him good insight into the causes of many of the national problems. He communicates his ideas and thoughts well; they reflect his long preparation. I could say much more about a number of qualities that I admire in Mr Madrigal Nieto, but I can say concretely that he is a well defined political figure prepared to govern.

[Question] How would you summarize the next election of the leadership of the Legislative Assembly? Who do you think will be elected as president?

[Answer] The parliamentary sector of the Unidad party believes in offering opportunities to all comrades to hold different jobs. Even though Mr Rodrigo Madrigal Nieto and Mr Ramon Aguilar Facio have done well as presidents of the Legislative Assembly, deputies from other sectors in Unidad can now hold that distinguished position in the primary governing body of the republic.

[Question] You agree, like many in Costa Rica, on the need to make a firm anti-Marxist statement to defend the constitutional order. Do you believe that that order is threatened by communism?

[Answer] I agree with the majority of our compatriots on the need to permanently strengthen and defend our democratic principle which is deeply rooted in the Costa Ricans as lovers of freedom. There is no doubt that communism, a totalitarian, materialistic and atheistic doctrine, has been the most serious threat to freedom and constitutional order under a true democracy throughout history. As to Costa Rica, communism is a grave threat given its penetration in education and the unions and, especially, the indifference, fear or calculation of some political leaders who join with the communists occasionally to cause serious harm to Unidad or the government.

[Question] What plan would you suggest to the government and the country to alleviate the serious economic and social problems?

[Answer] Current economic and social problems are the effect of a world situation as well as errors committed in the past in the conduct of economic and fiscal policy.

Remember that this government inherited from the previous government a deficit of 3 billion colones, a treasury debt of 1 billion colones, unfinanced teachers wages of 250 million colones, a deficit in CODESA [Development Corporation, Inc.] of 1 billion colones and a national banking system without recovery ability. I could cite many other problems, effects of an incorrect economic and social system.

In addition, I could indicate serious social problems like a very high degree of politicization which means only the party counts and not the country, an enormous bureaucratic structure causing public expenditures to rise under the previous government to unprecedented levels and incredible backwardness in basic economic fields like highways, ports, etc.

I do not have any solutions handy. The problems are very complex and go back a long way. Only the determination of the Costa Ricans could overcome such obstacles by working the land which constitutes the wealth of our country.

7717

CSO: 3010

CONTROVERSY CONTINUES OVER FERTICA PURCHASE

Paper Questions Purchase

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 14 Feb 80 p 10

[Editorial: "The FERTICA Negotiation"]

[Text] The negotiation for FERTICA [Central American Fertilizers, Inc] undoubtedly has one tremendous virtue due to the wholesome attribute which the president of the republic has, in good season, chosen to give it. That virtue is the clear and open public debate that has already arisen regarding the matter under negotiation.

If at one time reference has been made to points which, misinterpreted, have given the impression that one wished to raise suspicions about some aspects of the business, it must be understood that that is part of the general analysis which has been proposed about the matter, and does not spring from a desire to sabotage it; on the contrary, it is to help make the study fuller, deeper, and more complete, stimulating those who are most knowledgeable about those things to take a hand.

The government's participation in the purchase of FERTICA, if it comes to pass, is undoubtedly one of the aspects that have most disturbed the country, since we are surrounded by failures that had their origin in a time when the government, through CODESA [Development Corporation, Inc] tried to get involved as a businessman in fabulous projects that have nearly all turned out as multimillion-colon weights on the tired shoulders of the taxpayers, and as a discredit to public action in the field of production.

We would like to allude to this aspect without the slightest political concomitance, without thinking of anyone in particular, and calmly discuss the results of the government's practical experience with the producers of goods and services.

At the end of this month, for example, the bidding comes up on the sale of the Guanacal plant built by the government at a book cost of no less than 16 million colones. If that bidding is not declared void for lack of bidders,

there will be no offer higher than 5 million colones, which is a loss of over 11 million colones for the country. It is not that operation of Guanacal is not urgently necessary, when we are importing hydrated lime from Nicaragua and, in some lots, from distant Peru, while we are constantly walking on enormous lime deposits in our own territory.

No one wants that to happen with FERTICA, and therefore it would be encouraging for the president to publicly and firmly state that the government will not attempt to remain in control of the company if it does but it.

We know that Mexico is offering shares of the company at a price below their present one, which would be generous if they were offering a good business for sale, while, on the contrary if rumors are true, and FERTICA has only posted annual losses in excess of seven figures, we would be in the presence of an operation of the sort our people call expensive as a gift.

The technicians are the ones who can tell us whether the FERTICA operation can be run without losses, once corrections are made, and whether the national agricultural economy, which needs so much to become more technical and to increase agricultural production through, among other things, the use of fertilizers, can benefit from the purchase of the plant. That is an aspect that is beyond our reach, but we think the people ought to know about it.

Carazo Responds

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 15 Feb 80 p 4

[Text of letter from President Rodrigo Carazo to the Director of LA REPUBLICA]

[Text] Dear Mr Director:

I am very happy that the editorial in today's LA REPUBLICA fully recognizes the posture of debate, "open and clear public debate," which the president of the republic has encouraged regarding the possible purchase of the FERTICA fertilizer company.

In your editorial you assert that the FERTICA negotiation "undoubtedly has one great virtue due to the wholesome attribute that the president of the republic has, in good season, chosen to give it."

I really do not believe that this attribute should be a virtue. It is rather an obligation and a characteristic of responsibility in public management, in a government with popular participation not only in the decisionmaking process but also in implementing the best solutions. I am certain that if the businesses started and run by CODESA in the past had been managed the same way, if the decisions had not been made lightly, if the interested parties, which many times are we Costa Ricans, had had the opportunity to express our thoughts freely and without pressure and had contributed our experience and our enlightenment, cases like Guanacal, which you cite in your editorial, would never have happened.

It is just so that does not happen that an exhaustive study of all the problems presented by purchase of the company has been started by the users, the manufacturers of the product, and technicians and government experts. So the risks of "a bad bargain" are really minimal.

We do not believe in a paternalist government nor in an interventionist government in aspects and tasks that are naturally and logically those of private enterprise. Businesses regulated by the government must be in the hands of private initiative; for this reason we invite all fertilizer consumers, through their chambers and associations, and producing workers, to participate in the purchase of a complex which may benefit everyone.

The FERTICA workers already have stated that the Mexican offer is advantageous to the country and should be accepted.

In today's editorial, LA REPUBLICA states that "it is encouraging for the president to clarify the doubtful or misinterpreted points." We believe that it must be so, and therefore we want to clarify what was said in your editorial, questioning "if Mexico is offering a good business, since, if on the contrary as has been rumored, FERTICA has only posted annual losses in excess of seven figures, we would be in the presence of an operation of the sort our people call expensive as a gift."

According to our information, the Mexican FERTICA consortium with a factory in Costa Rica and several mixing and processing plants elsewhere in South America, as a total organization, did cost the Mexican government millions in annual losses, although the FERTICA fertilizer factory in Costa Rica has yielded large profits to the consortium, which were absorbed by the complex to offset the losses in the other plants. Nevertheless, as you note, it will be the technicians, the users, the factory workers and the economists who will have the final say.

8587

CSO: 3010

CUBA

CTC OFFICIAL ADDRESSES SABOTAGE ACTIVITY PROBLEM

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 6 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] Speech given by Francisco Travieso Damas, member of the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions], at the closure of the Fifth National Meeting on Physical Plant Security and State Secrets of the Ministry of Interior, which was held on 22 February 1980 at the Cristino Naranjo Workers Social Club, Havana.

Comrades of the Ministry of Interior.

Comrade vice ministers of organizations of the Central State Administration.

Comrades on the rostrum. Comrade brothers and sisters.

We know that these last few days have been productive, days during which gains in physical plant security and state secrets have been demonstrated, as well as the problems still persisting.

We have analyzed the results of 1 year, during which the participation of the union movement had characteristics different than those of other organizations. The rank and file organizations of the unions have always supported the work of this activity since its implementation in workplaces; however, we might say that this took place without precise guidelines and without the results being known and analyzed.

This situation has changed; and, pursuant to one of the agreements reached by the 14th CTC Congress, we have been working in all areas since last year. This was explained in detail on the first day of this meeting. Today, we are in a position to offer some concrete results which, of course, are meager compared to the work ahead of us.

The participation of the union movement in physical plant security is something inherent in its interests, which are the interests of all workers.

The revolutionary victory in our country in January 1959 initiated the process which will put an end to the capitalist system; and, for the first time in

Latin America, and having Comrade Fidel as our guide, we are building the first socialist state.

What up to that time was considered common and natural, that is, private ownership of the means of production, was abolished and replaced by social ownership. This process was relatively short, although it took several years; however, changing behavior to accord with those new production relationships is not accomplished as quickly. Even after 21 years of revolutionary victory, we still have with us many distortions and vestiges of the ideas which we were taught by the previous system and which conspire against proper collectivist conduct, against the principles of Marxism-Leninism.

This change is not spontaneous nor is it the product of a campaign; therefore, the work you are doing, you who are directing and carrying out the physical plant security activity, and the union movement which is supporting it, must be tightened even more. Meetings such as this help us in this endeavor.

Protecting and preserving the property of the workplace, struggling to ensure that it does not suffer the slightest deterioration, is the right and obligation of every worker.

It is impossible to increase production, decrease costs, increase the profitability of the workplace if there is equipment or raw materials deteriorating because of poor warehousing, because they are improperly left outside, if there are breakdowns of machinery and equipment because of neglect and irresponsibility, or if there is acceptance of a criminal activity, such as theft and removal of property, including criminal activity which the enemy at times is bold enough to commit.

Our workers cannot permit this; the entire force of their vigorous arm, with all their desire to build a new society, must descend upon those who still retain ideas, ways of thinking of the past society and upon those who have not understood that property is social. This said, every worker must fight for social property, must defend it forcefully, must face up to anything which is detrimental to the product of his efforts and sweat, must wage a continuing war. Similarly, we cannot permit anyone upon whom state organizations have conferred a responsibility in the workplace to fail to live up to it and because of that failure cause the property of the workplace to suffer.

The union movement is in favor of having the action of workers shown clearly in every instance.

Damage to the workplace's property has to be debated in production or service assemblies. It is inconceivable that for the reasons given there are losses of hundreds or thousands of pesos, or even lesser figures, and there is no discussion in such an assembly; the workers are not informed; and the collective does not seek solutions. If we fail to do so, we are violating a right of the workers, from whom we are later going to demand an accounting.

This analysis with the workers is a school for them; they will be learning better how to be the real owners of the means of production.

We also do not understand why management is not more demanding and do not rigorously apply the provisions of the law against offenders, independently of their being reported to the authorities of the Ministry of Interior, when appropriate.

With respect to this last point, union locals and offices must be vigilant to assure that management does its job. Failure to report a criminal act is protecting the offender from our socialist legal system, an act that should not go unpunished. It is a constitutional precept that all state organizations, their directors, officials and employees have the obligation of strictly observing the socialist legal system and assuring respect for it throughout society.

In the sector of physical security, there is one task of great importance: we are referring to the workers' guard. The attitude of the workers in defense of their interests has once again been demonstrated. We know how, since 1 January, at the call of our Revolution and our commander in chief, Fidel Castro, they have joined our militias, all of them as a people in uniform, decisively, enthusiastically and massively, in October 1959, and during the various stages in which the battle against the imperialist aggressor made their armed presence necessary alongside our Rebel Army first and the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] later.

The heroism demonstrated in Giron, in the fight against bandits, during the October crisis and in internationalist tasks is complemented by the defense of socialist property and with the same decisiveness.

In response to recent appeals by the First and Second Secretaries of our Party and the guidelines of the Eighth and Ninth Plenary Sessions of the Party's Central Committee, the guard has been strengthened in workplaces, as a worthy response by the working class.

The union movement, by channeling this will of the workers and as a commitment of the leadership of the CTC to make such a commitment in honor of this Fifth Meeting, has held a series of meetings in connection with physical security; and, today, I am pleased to report that 29,000 meetings have been held up to now and that the workers' guard has been set up with over 700,000 committed workers.

Significant in this process are the countless displays of adherence to revolutionary principles, to your proletarian state, defense of the Revolution, to your readiness to defend your workplace and the means of production.

However, the job of our organizations does not end with these assemblies. We must ensure that the guards do their job, that the union local does its work so that the guards will perform properly and, also, that it gives incentives in a systematic manner to those who do their job.

Combined with this, there was a report of the awarding of a certificate as a moral incentive which will be placed in the personnel file of comrades who perform in an outstanding manner to preserve the property of the workplace, including the workers' guard, as well as to control state secrets. It is recognition by the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions of this worthy attitude.

As for state secrets, it is true that it is not a massive activity; however, we are appealing to workers who are associated with it to meet their standards. The enemy is not standing still; on the contrary, he is preparing plans against our country, against our economy and is on the lookout for our deficiencies to take advantage of them. There are times, without wishing to, it seems that we are helping the enemy in his hostile activity, since we do not protect classified information as required. Or, by an indiscretion, we reveal a secret which will affect the interests of the Revolution.

Let us emphasize the fact that we have a long way to go in the sector of plant security and state secrets, not only because of the systematic actions of imperialism but also because of the other difficulties our economy is experiencing, the product of the world situation. Added to this, there are problems in some of our basic production sectors.

If to this we add losses in our production activities or property losses from fire, which occur when the established procedures are not followed, or because of criminal activities, our problems will increase. What is more, we must say that we do not know how to take care of the property which is the product of the sweat of an entire hard-working people, a people which is not only making an effort to build the new society but has also demonstrated that it is capable of offering its modest support to other peoples who are fighting for full freedom.

The working class, the workers, with their vanguard in the fore, the Party will also be victorious in this battle and will overcome their own deficiencies. This is a commitment of honor which we can make at this Fifth Meeting. It is our contribution to the development and improvement of this important physical plant security and state secrets activity.

Long live the Fifth Meeting on Physical Plant Security and State Secrets!

Long live the Second Congress of the Party!

Long live our commander in chief!

Fatherland or death!

We shall win!

8143

CSO: 3010

USSR COOPERATION: ARCHEOLOGY, AVIATION, TRADE

Soviet Archeologists Explore Cubitas

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 30 Jan 80 p 1

[Text] Sierra de Cubitas (Camaguey)--A team of Soviet specialists has concluded its tour of the pictograph zone here and of several other sites related to the aboriginal habitat, as part of the preparations for the Cuban Archeological Atlas.

Members of the team are Ruslan S. Vasilievsky, doctor of historical sciences, deputy director of the Institute of History, Philology and Philosophy of the Siberian branch of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, and Viacheslav I. Molodin, candidate for the degree of doctor in historical sciences and a researcher for that agency.

They are in charge of foreign technical advisers for the Atlas--a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the country's archeological potential--which will be the first document of its kind in Latin America.

Before winding up their stay in Camaguey and continuing on to Holguin, they plan to visit the ruins of the Santa Isabel del Castillo sugar mill--on the road to Santa Lucia beach--where, because of its value, it has been proposed to create a museum of the sugar industry.

The Soviet specialists praised the scientific rigor and the seriousness with which archeology is practiced in Camaguey.

In this regard they cited their agreement with the basic theory that the makers of the pictographs in the caves of Cubitas lived in the coastal valley to the north and that to move about they had to use the natural canyons which crisscross the mountain region.

This hypothesis was formulated by Jorge Calvera and Roberto Funes, members of the archeological work group of the territorial delegation of the Cuban Academy of Sciences (ACC) in Camaguey-Ciego de Avila.

Vasilievsky and Molodin reached the Cueva de los Generales [Cave of the Generals], where a relevant example of the rupestine art concerning the Spanish conquest and colonization was virtually destroyed in spite of repeated warnings about its preservation.

When asked about this, Dr Vasilievsky pointed out the need to take the necessary measures to prevent deterioration of examples of the Cuban cultural heritage.

Vasilievsky and Molodin were previously in Pinar del Rio, and their advisory mission is part of a cooperation agreement between the Academies of Science of Cuba and the USSR.

Lourdes Dominguez, chief of the Department of Archeology of the Institute of Social Sciences of the Cuban Academy, is traveling with them.

IL-76 Cargo Plane Scheduled

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 1 Feb 80 p 1

[Article by E.G.M.]

[Text] Next Sunday at approximately 1700 hours, Aeroflot's IL-76 cargo plane will land at Jose Marti International Airport in the capital on its first trip to our country, according to information received at a press conference held in the offices of the aforementioned air transport firm. The plane's arrival will mark the celebration on the following day, 9 February, of Soviet Civil Aviation Day.

On this first trip to Cuba the long-distance cargo plane is bringing three IL-62 engines for CUBANA [Cuban Air Line] and it is expected to return to Lenin's homeland on Monday morning.

In making the information public, Vladimir Trimenko, general manager of Aeroflot in Cuba, indicated also that soon--possibly this year--that firm will place in regular service two new types of planes, the YAK-42, with a 120-passenger capacity for short distances, and the IL-86 "airbus," which will carry 350 passengers on medium-distance flights.

[...repetition and omission in original] Trimenko pointed out that Aeroflot transports more than 1 million passengers annually, and that its planes fly to 113 cities in 84 countries on the five continents.

[Photo caption] Here is the IL-76. Its takeoff weight is over 150 tons; it can reach an altitude of 13 kilometers and a speed of 850-900 kilometers per hour. It has the additional advantage of needing only a short runway for takeoff or landing.

Twenty Years of Trade

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 12 Feb 80 p 1

[Article by PRELA correspondent Mireya Castaneda]

[Text] Moscow, 12 February--Cuban-Soviet trade relations begun 20 years ago have given way to a cooperation so multifaceted that it touches practically all areas of the life of both countries.

On 13 February 1960, the head of the Cuban Government, Fidel Castro, and the then vice premier of the USSR, Anastas Mikoyan, signed the first bilateral trade agreement in Havana.

That was the year in which Washington began its policy of economic blackmail against Cuba, first reducing the Cuban sugar quota and later stopping it altogether.

The economic blockade of the island was to follow immediately.

At that very crucial moment, the Soviet Union bought 5 million tons of sugar from Cuba, as well as granting a credit of 100 million dollars for 12 years at a minimal interest rate of 2.5 percent annually.

The president of the Councils of State and of Ministers of Cuba, Fidel Castro, said in 1974 that "each aggressive measure by imperialism was followed by an act of solidarity by our Soviet brothers."

In the intervening years, Soviet-Cuban economic cooperation has traveled a long, secure and fruitful road.

Trade between the Soviet Union and Cuba reached the unprecedented figure in 1978 of 4.8 billion rubles, a growth of more than 25 times, compared with 1960, when it totaled 160 million rubles.

The fishing port of Havana, the electric power plants at Mariel and Santiago de Cuba and the sugar combine factories in Holguin are some of the 160 industries constructed or modernized with Soviet aid from that time to the present.

The agreement for economic and technical cooperation signed in Moscow in April, 1976, marks a new qualitative stage and is considered the most important in the history of relations between the two countries.

It provides for Soviet aid to Cuba in the development of the electric power, sugar, metallurgical, iron and steel, nonferrous metals and construction materials industries, among others.

In accordance with its provisions, the USSR is providing technical assistance in the construction and expansion of 200 industrial projects, including an atomic energy plant, a metallurgic complex and a petroleum refinery.

The Cubans agreed to sell the USSR nickel and cobalt compounds, sugar, tobacco, citrus fruits and other agricultural products.

Along with the economic cooperation there will be cooperation in education, science, the arts, press, radio, television, public health and sports.

During his visit to Cuba in January 1974, Leonid Brezhnev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, emphasized the magnitude of relations with Cuba, indicating that these range from the simple form of trade to cooperation in planning the national economy.

The importance of the signing, more than 20 years ago, of the first trade agreement between the two countries is rooted in this manysided and consolidated economic, scientific and technical cooperation achieved by the USSR and Cuba.

Economic Cooperation

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 12 Feb 80 p 6

[Article by Pablo Socorro Leon, AIN]

[Text] It was during the first days of the revolution, and already the radical ideas of those bold men who had come down from the Sierra were worrying the masters of the great power of the North, who for the first time found themselves face to face with a government which did not bow down in a servile manner to their suggestions, demands or threats.

The events in Cuba had entered on the road to an independence won with the blood of 20,000 martyrs, and would not falter in the achievement of its objective: to bring to reality the republic that Marti had proclaimed: "with all and for the good of all."

But the American pressures were great, because their interests in our country were also considerable, and the first hostile acts against the peasant and proletarian government which had dared to confront the all-powerful began at that time.

After the veiled threats came the first countermeasures, first the suppression of the sugar quota and later on the establishment of an economic blockade, which would have smothered the nascent Revolution had it not been for the decisive aid of the peasants and proletariat of another state which had long before freed itself from capitalist exploitation.

In one of his numerous speeches of that time, Fidel pointed out that, thanks to the USSR, not even in the most difficult moments of the economic blockade did our people lack bread or the basic foods; it was the Soviet Union which took our sugar and established an effective petroleum bridge which saved the economic life of the country.

With no official ties in existence yet, the first Soviet-Cuban trade agreement was signed on 13 February 1960, an agreement which today, 20 years after its signing, has reached a significant dimension.

Example of Friendship for History

For the Yankees, our country was nothing more than part of their huge Latin American fiefdom, although an enviable part, taken over by the numerous unfortunate investments in pliable governments made to their own likeness.

Before the revolutionary victory, Cuba was perishing in its total dependency on American foreign trade, which was favored by low tariffs on its merchandise, a privilege granted with the installation of the nominally sovereign republic which they concocted out of that trade.

This made their goods compete advantageously compared with those of other capitalist countries, thus limiting Cuba's real freedom of trade, to which was added an unfavorable balance of payments and the typical single export--sugar--a characteristic most appreciated by the "northern masters."

The American monopolies managed the Cuban sugar economy according to their own whims, raising and lowering prices and annual production while at the same time controlling the supply of petroleum on which all the local industry depended.

As a typical example of monopoly, the fuel which was purchased from the transnationals was in turn refined by the pulp enterprises themselves. What the revolution found when it came to power was this totally stagnant economic situation, and thus it was also affected by the unilateral decision of the United States to close that country's market to Cuban sugar, depriving it of its principle source of exchange.

At this difficult juncture came the solid aid of the Soviet Union, which announced immediately that it would purchase the large quantity of sugar that was ready for shipment to the United States, thus destroying Washington's plans.

Later on, when the United States monopolies, which even owned the refineries, refused to continue to supply petroleum to Cuba, the USSR established an effective maritime bridge which assured our country the precious fuel and once again foiled the blockade and the Yankee intentions.

The refusal of the American enterprises to refine the Soviet petroleum precipitated the nationalization and the end of these monopolies on our soil. Thus, cemented by the solidarity of the difficult moments, a friendship was growing which had among its decisive steps the aforementioned trade agreement of February, 1960, under which Cuba was favored by a new trade balance which granted a credit of 100 million pesos payable in 12 years at 2.5 percent.

On 8 May diplomatic relations between the two countries, which had been interrupted in 1952 by an act of servility toward Yankee imperialism by dictator Fulgencio Batista, were reestablished.

On 18 July 1960, Fidel announced to the people the USSR's willingness to purchase 700,000 tons of sugar--exactly the same quota that Cuba had formerly sold to the Yankee market--at 3.25 centavos per pound.

Decisive Steps in Cooperation

An important aspect of the guarantee of fraternal relations was the visit to the USSR in November 1960, of Guerilla Hero Ernesto Che Guevara, who met with high-ranking Soviet leaders to discuss the trade exchange for 1961 under the agreement signed 9 months earlier in Havana.

As a result of those talks, the Soviet Union purchased from Cuba 2.7 million tons of sugar at 4 centavos per pound, a price substantially higher than the world market at that time, and in addition the USSR conceded broad facilities in the agreements on geological exploration and other important economic areas.

As the years passed, the great fatherland of Lenin demonstrated the solid essence of proletarian internationalism, forging friendly and cooperative relations never before seen between an industrially developed country and an underdeveloped country.

Thanks to this aid, medium and long-term cooperation programs were drawn up and developed for the most important branches of the Cuban national economy, chiefly the sugar industry.

One extraordinarily important step was the creation in 1970 of the Soviet-Cuban Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation, which has been working regularly to date, permitting the solution of important economic problems.

Another relevant historical fact in these 20 years of brotherhood and cooperation was, without a doubt, the visit of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro to the USSR in 1973, during which five agreements were signed, once again emphasizing the concept of international solidarity of the leaders and the people of Lenin's fatherland.

The documents signed included the postponement of payments for the credits granted by the USSR to Cuba, the granting of new credits, the mutual supply of goods, economic and technical cooperation, and all matters concerning the prices of sugar and nickel produced in our country.

Referring to these agreements, Fidel described them "as an example of an internationalist attitude, a generous and unprecedented fraternal attitude, and of a truly disinterested attitude."

Another important cornerstone in bilateral relations was the visit to Cuba in January 1974, of Comrade Leonid Illich Brezhnev, secretary general of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee.

On that occasion the joint declaration signed by Fidel and Brezhnev set forth the importance of Soviet cooperation for the development and improvement of economic, commercial and scientific and technical cooperation on a planned basis and at long term.

And the Seed Grew...

The shelling of the cruiser "Aurora" not only represented the achievement of full dignity by the Russian workers and peasants, but also the arrival of a new system whose fundamental premise would be brotherly cooperation among all the people of the world.

With this concept as a symbol, the Soviets extended their internationalist aid to Cuba, which permitted us to break the attempted absolute blockade of the Americans and to increase our trade to levels which permit the designation of funds for savings from which investments, a considerable part of the gross national product, will come. The priority role of the USSR in Cuban economic development is concretely visible in the building of electric power plants, the fertilizer complex at Nuevitas, the fishing port, the Jose Marti iron and steel plant in Havana, the machinery complex in Villa Clara and the KTP-1 sugar combine factory in Holguin.

The gratitude of the Cuban people for the solidarity aid of the USSR has accumulated and now flows in the resulting internationalism set forth and practiced by our revolution in other countries of the world.

While our country was still struggling to rise successfully from the imperialist domination which was trying to suffocate it, Fidel had already far-sightedly planned the future, expressing at that time that "the debt of gratitude which we have to humanity, we will repay also one day, insofar as we are able, by helping others."

And our commander in chief continued:

"It is like the man who plants a seed which grows, which helps us today and will help others tomorrow, until the last peoples on the earth have been freed from the exploitation of man by man, and until socialism has been established and Marxist-Leninist ideas have triumphed among the last peoples on the earth." Time, with its inexorable, dialectic zeal, has proved our principles right: today the seed sowed 20 years ago has produced flowers of victory in Vietnam, Angola, Ethiopia and Nicaragua.

USSR Ambassador Vorotnikov's Statement

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 22 Feb 80 pp 68-69

[Interview with Vitaliy Vorotnikov, Soviet ambassador to Cuba; AIN news service; date, place and interviewer not given]

[Text] February of this year marks the 20th anniversary of the signing of documents of historical importance: the intergovernmental agreements on the concession of credit by the Soviet Union to the Republic of Cuba and on trade and payments.

Those documents were signed by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, then prime minister of the Revolutionary Government, and Anastas Mikoyan, member of the Presidium of the CPSU and first vice chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers.

Today Vitaliy Vorotnikov, the Soviet Union's ambassador in Cuba, recounted the development of fraternal trade relations between the two countries.

In an interview granted to AIN, the diplomat also analyzed how the trade exchange of those 20 years is reflected in the development of the various economic areas, emphasizing the basic areas which are affected and in what measure trade has continued to grow between Cuba and the USSR.

"Before 1960," he indicated, "the specific impact of the socialist countries in Cuba's foreign trade was not very great. In 1959, 2.2 percent of Cuban exports went to those countries, and .3 percent of its imports came from them.

"In the ensuing years these indexes increased to 70-80 percent and at present are steady at those levels.

"Economic cooperation between the USSR and Cuba in the first few years following the victory of the Cuban Revolution," he said, "represented basic forms of trade under the conditions of the economic blockade.

"In 1960 the United States Government suspended its Cuban sugar quota and eventually cut off supplies of petroleum. The Soviet Union was among the first to lend Cuba the necessary aid.

"The later development of trade, the broadening of the range of merchandise, contributed in great measure to eliminating the consequences of the blockade.

"At present, through the supply of articles from the USSR, almost all the needs of a series of areas of the Cuban economy and of Cuba's people for some types of raw materials, industrial articles and food are satisfied completely or almost completely."

To give an example of the momentous development of trade relations which has made these results possible, Ambassador Vorotnikov offered the following figures: in 1960, trade between the two countries amounted to about 183.7 million pesos, while in 1979--according to preliminary data--it approached 5 billion pesos. In four 5-year periods this trade increased 27-fold.

"On 13 February 1960," Vorotnikov recalled, "with the signing of the first trade agreement, the Soviet Government proposed to buy all the sugar which had been refused by the United States. From that time on, the Soviet Union became a steady buyer of Cuba's principal export (that is, on the basis of fixed prices).

"Trade relations between the USSR and Cuba have allowed the Island of Freedom to insure the increasing development of the basic sectors of its economy and to carry out important activities, such as geological exploration--particularly relative to petroleum--and the reconstruction and expansion of the sugar, nickel and other industries.

"It is evident," added the diplomat, "that trade with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries has permitted the application of technology in agriculture and in air and automobile transportation, as well as in certain other areas of Cuban industry."

To illustrate his statement, Vorotnikov offered concrete figures on the vital aid extended by the Soviet Union to the Cuban Revolution.

During these years it has provided 83,400 tractors, 96,400 automobiles (among them 63,000 trucks), 10,400 bus chassis, 3,800 combines, 6,500 metal cutting machines and more than 130 million tons of petroleum and derivatives.

Among articles exported by Cuba to the USSR, the ambassador mentioned raw sugar, nickel-cobalt concentrate, citrus fruits, rum and liquors, tobacco and cigars, that is, articles which mean a great deal to the national economy of the USSR.

"For example," he continued, "since 1960, Cuba has supplied 46 million tons of raw sugar and 345,000 tons of nickel-cobalt concentrate to the USSR.

"The figures mentioned only partly describe the significance which this trade has for economic development of our states.

"This trade has favored the broad development of economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the two countries and includes all the basic branches of the Cuban economy, nickel, the sugar, electric power, metallurgical and iron and steel industries, the construction of machinery, transportation and other areas," the ambassador added.

"In the present 5-year period, as in the previous period," he continued, "the USSR continues to be Cuba's chief trade ally, the chief purchaser of traditional Cuban exports and the basic supplier of articles which are of vital importance to the Cuban economy."

According to Vorotnikov, between 1976 and 1980 exports to Cuba of food products and other widely consumed articles increased 1.5 to 2 times, those of cast iron and laminated ferrous metals more than doubled, and mineral fertilizer exports, grains, leather footwear and other products, to mention only a few examples, increased 1.5 times.

The total value of machinery and equipment to be supplied by the USSR in the present 5-year period will be over 1.5 billion rubles.

There will be a notable increase in these categories compared with the previous 5-year period. The figures offered by the ambassador are eloquent enough.

The increase in the number of tractors will be 10,500 units; trucks, 4,000; bus chassis, 3,500; automobiles, more than double, and 58 airplanes and helicopters will be provided.

"According to preliminary calculations," said Vorotnikov, "the volume of exports of Cuban merchandise to the USSR will more than double between 1976 and 1980.

"Under the 5-year agreement on trade for 1976-80 alone, the USSR will receive 13.6 million tons of raw sugar, nearly 108,500 tons of nickel and cobalt (by metal content), some 300,000 tons of citrus fruits, 50 million units of tobacco, around 13 billion units of cigarettes, and 3.9 million decaliters of rum and liquors.

"In general, trade and economic relations between the USSR and Cuba are developing successfully on a mutually advantageous basis.

"In the last few years, in the light of the provisions of the Soviet-Cuban declaration and the decisions of the 25th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party, special attention is being given to increasing the effectiveness of Soviet-Cuban trade relations," said Vorotnikov.

The diplomat referred further on to the negotiations presently under way for economic cooperation in the next 5-year period.

He recalled that in accordance with the coordinated work program, the joint consultation of experts from planning agencies of both countries took place in Havana from 10 to 28 December 1979 to discuss coordination of the plans for 1981-1985.

"A detailed examination was made," Vorotnikov reported, "of the problems related to volumes of goods to be traded during that period.

"In addition they examined questions concerning the extension to Cuba of technical assistance in the construction and reconstruction of industrial centers and other projects.

"At the suggestion of the Soviet representatives, they discussed the problems of creating a general plan for the development of the Cuban national economy until the year 2000, starting with its relationship to the complex program of socialist economic integration and to the projects of the specific long-term cooperation programs being drawn up at present by CAME.

"The parties expressed their interest in the continuing development of cooperation for the sake of friendship and for the accelerated development of the economies of both states and the raising of our peoples' living standard."

A retrospective look at the result of the Soviet Union's technical assistance in the matter of construction on Cuban soil was offered by Vorotnikov as he reported that during these 20 years more than 170 buildings of different types have been constructed, including 135 industrial projects.

"Our cooperation in the area of energy has special importance for the development of the country. More than one-third of all the electric power of the Cuban system is created by generators installed with the USSR's technical assistance," he said.

Palpable examples of this are found in the electric power plants at Mariel and Rente, as well as in the diesel plant on the Isle of Youth and in the construction of 220-kilowatt lines which, once they are completed, will raise the technical potential and the level of work safety throughout the entire energy system.

"Holguin's 60th Anniversary of the October Revolution manufacturing and assembly plant for sugar combines, with an annual capacity of 600 machines, and the Santa Clara Machinery Plant, which annually produces 4,000 tons of machinery and spare parts for the sugar industry, have a special place in the country's economy," Vorotnikov indicated.

Other important complexes mentioned by the ambassador which receive technical aid from the Soviet Union are the expansion of the Jose Marti metallurgical plant, Antillana de Acero, which produces 95 percent of the steel and all of the laminate made in Cuba, and the Nuevitas fertilizer plant in Camaguey Province.

Among the nonmanufacturing projects implemented through Soviet cooperation the ambassador recalled the V. I. Lenin hospital in Holguin; the prefabrication plant at Santiago de Cuba; expansion of the fishing port of Havana and the container terminal, the Caribe land communications station (Inter-sputnik system), centers of study and many others.

"In closing, I would like to emphasize that our economic and trade relations are developing successfully and on a mutually advantageous basis.

"They play an important role in the development of the most vital branches of Cuba's national economy, favor the growth of the economic potential of the country, the completion of the social program and in general serve to strengthen friendship between our peoples.

8735

CSO: 3010

CUBA

CULTURAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH USSR SIGNED

Demichev Meets Artists, Intellectuals

FL091239 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Apr 80 FL

[Text] USSR culture minister and CPSU Politburo candidate member Petr Nilovich Demichev has held a fraternal meeting with outstanding Cuban personalities in the field of culture and literature at the headquarters of the Union of Cuban Writers and Artists [UNEAC]. The welcoming remarks were made by Cuban national poet Nicolas Guillen, member of the PCC Central Committee and president of the UNEAC, who said it was an honor and a great pleasure to welcome his friend and brother Demichev.

In a speech the visitor stated that the essential purpose of his visit to Cuba had been fulfilled with the signing of a cultural cooperation agreement, which follows the first one signed in 1960. In these 20 years, Demichev stressed, Cuba has taken a giant leap forward in the sphere of culture and arts which can be measured in centuries and which no country in Latin America, Africa and Southwest Asia has matched. In this respect he referred to the total education of the people in that period of time as well as their outstanding artistic manifestations, such as in classic and modern ballet, literature and music.

Demichev Meets With Hart

FL071739 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Apr 80 FL

[Text] This morning Petr Demichev, minister of culture of the Soviet Union and candidate member of the CPSU, placed a floral wreath at the foot of the monument to national hero Jose Marti at the Plaza de la Revolucion. The distinguished visitor was accompanied by the rest of the members of the delegation he heads as well as First Vice Minister of Culture Rafael Almeida and Lupe Veliz, director of international relations of the Cuban Culture Ministry.

Later on, the USSR culture minister held friendly talks with Armando Hart Davalos, member of the PCC Politburo and minister of culture.

CUBA

'INTERNATIONALIST' COOPERATION WITH GRENADA DESCRIBED

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 15 Feb 80 p 80

[Article by Jorge Luna]

[Text] St Georges: Incredible, but true! A modern international airport, probably one of the largest in the Caribbean, will be built on two of Grenada's beautiful bays.

The PRENSA LATINA photo [not included] explains better than any article could the complexity of the project undertaken in a spirit of solidarity by a crew of Cuban internationalist construction workers who are working on this Caribbean island.

In the far south of Grenada, in the region called "Point Salinas," the revolutionary government of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has selected the site of a modern air terminal designed to boost Grenada's tourist industry.

Grenada is a volcanic island of great and steep hills, and it is unusual to find flat land anywhere in the country. For that reason, the Grenadan and Cuban experts agreed that it was necessary to take land from the sea, by filling in two large bays and leveling the rocky hills surrounding them.

"This is a huge job; it is very large, very complex, and not at all easy," Miguel Vizcaino, head of the advance group of the crew of the "Armando Mestre" Cuban internationalist construction workers, from Matanzas, told PRENSA LATINA.

The Cuban advance group consists of 33 men; their initial job is to build housing for the rest of the crew that will start to arrive in the next few weeks, and that will eventually include about 250 construction workers.

The construction of an airport of the size of this one must necessarily be done in phases, and it will take at least 3 years. But already the advance crew that arrived in Grenada in December 1979 has made progress on the "temporary facilities" where the other workers will live, eat, and rest.

Vizcaino, who described the problems caused by recent torrential rains, emphasized that the essential part of the temporary facilities is ready, and work has begun on a new road from the project to a stone quarry, whose stone will be used as bay fill. It will also provide access to the capital.

The same ship which brought the Cuban internationalists also brought 94 items of heavy construction equipment, which were given to Grenada by Cuba; this represents a contribution worth approximately \$10 million.

The project also includes the training of Grenadan workers in various construction specialties and in handling the heavy equipment, which is already being used for earthmoving. Large hills will be leveled, including one on which the old colonial lighthouse is located.

With the arrival of the main part of the crew, the phase of filling in the bays and earthmoving will start. A model showing the design of the runways and buildings will soon be ready.

According to the experts, the atmosphere and winds in this part of the country are ideal for commercial aviation, aside from the area's proximity to the capital, St George.

Now Grenada, which has a great deal of international tourism, has only a small airport named "Pearls" in the northeast of the island. This airport, built in 1943, can only operate in the daytime because of a lack of lighting.

The Grenadan government has promised to finance the latter project with approximately \$12 million. To do so it has launched an energetic bond sale for the international airport. Many persons and commercial and social organizations are contributing to this drive.

The St George Airport Development Committee is confident that the goal will be achieved, to judge by the enthusiasm shown by the Grenadans for the project.

In the meantime, the friendship between the peoples of Cuba and Grenada (which is close to the celebration of the first anniversary of its Revolution of 13 March) is becoming even warmer with the unselfish work done by the Cuban internationalists.

Vizcaino said that the Grenadans are "very interested and very supportive of us. Wherever a Cuban goes, he is greeted with affection."

The crew leader also mentioned the spirit and disposition of the construction workers and said that they are eager to begin work on the larger part of the project.

7679

CSO: 3010

'ENEMIES OF REVOLUTION' TARGETED BY DEFENSE COMMITTEES

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 22 Feb 80 p 2

[Text] The necessity for continuing to improve the quality of vigilance, a priority task for CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] members, and the role that the CDR must play in the ideological struggle against the enemies of the revolution, and against any type of demonstration that may interfere with the principles of the new society which our people are building were matters discussed by Armando Acosta, the national coordinator of the CDR, at the closing of the National Seminar of Vice-Coordimators of the organization, which convened for 3 days in Havana.

With regard to self-financing, he stressed that intensive work is under way to perform that important task. He said that the 20th Anniversary of the CDR Bonus for Good Dues Paying would be given to the members who regularly pay their dues this year.

The masses' role in the quality of the People's Government assemblies for rendering accounts was discussed by the CDR national coordinator, who declared that attendance at those meetings does not suffice, but that they must be marked by combativeness.

He also underscored the CDR's effort on behalf of the Society for Patriotic-Military Education (SEPMI).

At the final work session of the seminar, Maria Teresa Malmierca, national vice-coordinator of the CDR, discussed the need for lending greater quality and stringent requirements to all the tasks performed by the organization.

Special addresses were delivered at the seminar by Raul Ruiz, deputy to the People's Government National Assembly, who discussed the masses' support for the assemblies for the delegates' rendering of accounts, and Lt Col Cesar Rodriguez, vice-chairman of SEPMI, who cited the CDR effort in the patriotic and military education of pre-recruits.

Maj Andres Catasus, from the MININT's [Ministry of Interior] Central Political Directorate, explained the joint tasks of the combatants from that

armed entity and the CDR members, in honor of the 20th anniversary of the creation of the mass organization.

An analysis was also made of the experiences in various provinces relating to backing from the CDR to the People's Government, the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces], MININT and the Society for Patriotic-Military Education, as well as other reports dealing with the work of the vice-coordinators, the Economic Management System, planning, finances in the organization and other topics.

The participants resolved to send greetings to the Cuban Women's Federation on the occasion of the forthcoming convening of its Third Congress.

2909

CSO: 3010

DISCREPANCIES IN VOLUNTEER WORK ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTED

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 19 Feb 80 p 2

[Text] The enterprises failed to contribute over 48 million pesos to the state budget in the form of volunteer work performed last year throughout the country.

According to data provided by the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions (CTC), in 1979 there were volunteer work mobilizations totaling over 97.5 million hours, valued at 50,131,472 pesos. Industrial, service and construction centers benefited from 59.7 million hours of volunteer work, while agriculture received 37.8 million hours.

However, the state budget posted income amounting to only 2,005,500 pesos. As of 30 November, revenue of 1,187,400 pesos, or a little under 60 percent, had been recorded. The State Committee for Finance (CEF) reported that the status of that revenue according to provinces is as follows:

Contribution to the State Budget (in pesos)

Provinces	30 November	31 December
Pinar del Rio	23,700	47,000
Havana	87,300	176,100
City of Havana	123,100	273,600
Matanzas	44,200	262,600
Villa Clara	167,800	305,900
Cienfuegos	49,200	51,700
Sancti Spiritus	3,600	12,400
Ciego de Avila	233,000	240,100
Camaguey	1,700	26,100
Las Tunas	99,300	123,200
Holguin	190,600	215,300
Granma	52,100	85,400
Santiago de Cuba	84,000	152,300
Guantanamo	24,100	29,800
Isle of Youth Special Municipality	<u>3,700</u>	<u>4,000</u>
Totals:	1,187,400	2,005,500

This same CEF report states that the provinces of Havana, City of Havana, Villa Clara, Cienfuegos, Ciego de Avila, Camaguey, Holguin and Granma, and the Isle of Youth Special Municipality, had contributed nearly 900,000 pesos to the state budget in the form of mobilizations for sugar harvests and minibrigades improperly; because in the legislation regulating the collection of funds from volunteer work, this type of mobilization is not considered a source of revenue. It was also learned that the student labor force contributed nearly 15 million pesos during 1979.

The resolution on the Economic Management and Planning System approved by our party's First Congress states, verbatim: "The enterprises will pay the compensation for volunteer work to the mass organization or state agency that carries out the mobilization, and they must transfer these funds to the state budget as a contribution to the development of the national economy."

According to the reports that have been received, the enterprises are not fulfilling this social obligation. Volunteer work must be paid for, in order to be able to keep an account of the expenses entailed in the production process. If these deductions are not made, the enterprise will be posting a lower cost than what it really should be; because it has received volunteer work which increases the number of its workers, and creates a new added value. Hence, the enterprise will have changed all the indicators that gauge its efficiency, costs, productivity, wage fund, number of workers, earnings, etc.

When an enterprise receives volunteer work and does not pay for it, it is appropriating a created asset which does not belong to it, because it is not the result of its economic management, but rather of a greater expenditure of work force which is not its own and which it has not accounted for either, but which has materialized in the end product of the enterprise. This is why productive volunteer work must be accounted for and paid for.

The first thing that the labor movement must do in an enterprise is to require that, when any volunteer work is done, the administration must account for it in accordance with the regulations and rates that are in effect, and, the next day, transfer the amount thereof to the organization which carried out the mobilization.

2909

CSO: 3010

INTERNAL DISCONTENT CASTRO'S BIGGEST DANGER: HUBER MATOS

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 1 Mar 80 p 13

[Excerpt] Caracas, 28 February (AFP)--The former guerrilla commander, Huber Matos, stated here that the greatest threat to President Fidel Castro is not the groups of exiles, but rather the increasing discontent of the Cuban people and the inability of the Communist doctrine and system to destroy that people's spirit of liberty.

Castro's former comrade in the Sierra Maestra, who was latter accused of being a thief and foreign agent, and spent 20 years in prisons on the island, has been in Caracas since last Tuesday, in the course of a tour of several countries for the purpose, as he said at a press conference, of "fostering the unity of all those who are considering rescuing our country for all Cubans."

Matos claimed that Castro is not a Communist, "but only an ambitious opportunist capable of doing anything to remain in power. He is a fraud, who has deceived many people and confused many politicians and intellectuals. But the truth is gaining ground every day, both outside and inside of Cuba."

He claimed that there is resistance to the regime in Cuba: "Sabotage, which reflects the nonconformity, and individual, unorganized passive resistance, which nevertheless can and will be the basis for the overthrow of the tyrant."

Matos remarked: "The Cuban people have no proclivity toward enslavement. They will never learn to live in chains. The Communist doctrine has been unable to subject their minds, and that is the first great weakness of the Castro regime."

He maintained that the second weak point is the strength of the military apparatus, based on the militias.

Matos noted: "The militia members come from the people, and the people are repudiating the system more intensively each day. In the long run, it will be the young people themselves bearing arms who will depose Castro."

The former Sierra Maestra combatant is now 61 years of age, with gray hair, but he has retained his erect bearing and strong voice, and he retorts with great assurance to those who express doubt concerning the possibility of a revolt against the Castro government.

"The most difficult elements to control in Cuba today are the young people, who were born and supposedly indoctrinated under this regime. Whereas the old people seem to be resigned now, the young are always finding ways of thwarting the dreadful repression, to express their dissatisfaction with, and contempt for the system."

Matos gave assurance that the construction of new housing in Cuba is very deficient, while the old houses are deteriorating and collapsing because of lack of maintenance.

He said: "The public transportation is disastrous, and education is discriminatory and regimented."

Conversing with newsmen shortly after having spoken on a television program, he issued an appeal "to all democratic governments" to demand the withdrawal of the Soviet troops stationed in Cuba.

Matos also disclosed the presence, outside of Cuba, of "many Castro agents, who appear to be exiles," noting that, in his opinion, "they are the ones who are trying to make people believe that the present situation in Cuba is irreversible, and that there is no recourse other than to accept Castro, and try to get along with him as well as possible."

He insisted: "Castro can and must be overthrown. Furthermore, Cuba is a focal point for subversion in the entire Caribbean and Central America. That is why the Soviets are supporting it, and are not concerned about the price."

Matos neither confirmed nor denied the possibility of heading a unified anti-Castro movement in exile.

He said: "At the moment, we are only making an appeal for unity, and working for the release of the prisoners and of the people of Cuba themselves. Time will tell about the rest, but, unfortunately, I don't think that it will be my eyes that see the time of liberation."

With regard to Camilo Cienfuegos, who was killed in an airplane accident a week after Matos was arrested in October 1959, he said that his death "was a very strange occurrence."

He added: "Camilo and I were very close in our ideas. He apologized, with great distress, when he had to arrest me at Fidel's order. He was also very worried about the course that the revolution was taking under Castro's guidance."

Huber Matos concluded by saying: "I think that if Cienfuegos had not died, it would have been a little more difficult for Fidel Castro to hold the mock trial against me, and to imprison me for 20 years."

SOLUTIONS SOUGHT FOR PROBLEMS AFFECTING POPULACE

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 7 Mar 80 pp 57-58

[Text] The critical judgment in the main report at the meeting to assess the work done during 1979 in the area of domestic trade reached such depths and spread so widely that it even shocked the reporter familiar with the branch of industry, wherein there are no halfway measures. Upon lifting one's gaze to the desk of the presiding official, one can read an idea of Raul's which served as the slogan for the meeting: "Failure to face our mistakes and shortcomings in a courageous, determined, open and frank manner is what makes us weak, and benefits our enemies." Of course now we were able to make a complete evaluation of the atmosphere in which we were immersed.

We shall not take the main report step by step. Our plan will consist of pausing to consider the topics most closely related to the population's direct feelings. So, let us consider retail trade. The plan was fulfilled 99.4 percent, with a sales volume representing 5.2 percent more than in 1978. The large inventories (an aspect which has a negative effect on the economy) were reduced only 4.7 percent. And, in the case of industrial products, if one considers the fact that the price reductions amount to 60 million pesos, this means that the reduction actually turns out to be nonexistent. The matter drew the attention of the administrators:

"The fact is that we are still not selling; that's all," complained Arnaldo Vega, head of marketing.

"The price cuts do not correspond to the peak sales, such as those on Lovers' Day, for example. The reduction on women's girdles went into effect on 25 February, instead of being advanced to 14 February. This has an effect," argued Jesus Verdecia, sectorial trade director for the city of Havana.

"The worker must be converted into a seller," reiterated Vega.

"Very well, we know about the complaints. But what shall we do?" asked Flavio Bravo from the chairman's desk.

Methods were given, and there was talk of incentives....until Serafin Fernandez, the minister, took the floor:

"The truth is that the only thing we have done is to enroll the enterprises in the SDPE [Economic Management and Planning System]. Now their economic leverage needs to operate so that it will influence the mentality, from the head of the enterprise to the worker. So long as those incentives which are possible under the system are not in operation, some of the efforts that we are making will be confined to good intentions."

And everyone was quite convinced, and, in fact, accepted the theory.

But what can be said about the service for sales of industrial products? There are critical situations: The sales locations with defects are not easily spotted; too much time is taken in shipping; there are obstacles due to administrative red tape; there is a lack of information about the products; there are returns to the units because of flaws in the service; premises are lacking in cleanliness, organization and maintenance; and there is failure to make distribution within the proper period of time.

In what respects is work being done? On the gradual elimination of rationing; on the system to help reduce inventories; on obtaining the workers' participation in the "revival of trade;" in the increasing use of market research as a major tool for trade.

Of course, the restaurant business was dealt with in depth. Actual situations: Constant violations of the regulations on weight and quantity in preparing dishes; failure to apply the price lists; slight utilization of the assigned products; low quality in service and poor treatment of the customer; lack of sanitation; breakage due to mistreatment of equipment, leakage and unlawful practices in the handling of resources.

How is this being combated? At the present time, a quality control system is being used in the municipality of Pinar del Rio which, owing to its good results, will be implemented immediately elsewhere in the country (we shall discuss this in the "Opinions" section of BOHEMIA ECONOMICA); the meetings on restaurant techniques have been improving the service, although not yet in a way that is evident to the populace; the implementation of processing standards is another tool; the salvage plans are beginning to give results; the classification of units will be another contribution; and, along general lines, an inspection whereby work is beginning to be gaged one person after another, and the resources are starting to be controlled with increasing strictness.

Let us mention services as well. We daresay that this is one of the areas with the most problems. True, the amount of material resources at our disposal has an effect; but there is also the level of qualifications among the work force, and what is an open secret: inefficiency in inspection.

Let us cite a concrete example: clock and watchmaking. The report states that no progress has been made, and that it is necessary to expand the system and train more technicians. Now then, the woman in charge of training for the ministry, who severely scolded the enterprises for not being concerned with making use of the facilities of the national school for technicians, in commenting on the clock and watchmaking industry specifically, exclaimed:

"We are tired of announcing over and over again the existence of a master's course in clock and watchmaking, with 20 available slots; and after months of advertising it, they sent us only seven comrades. With this situation, a watchmaker costs the economy more than a doctor does!"

Roberto Garcia, the sectorial director of services for the city of Havana, requested the floor to declare:

"We recently gave examinations to 425 mechanics, and only 25 percent passed the test. We shall reclassify them, and we shall apply Resolution 24 (dismissal) to those who do not pass. Furthermore, those who pass will have to appear before the assembly for rendering accounts."

One would have to ask why the sectorial group allowed the situation to exist until now, and did not make the requirement on time. "The union will not accept that ukase," replied Rene Lara, secretary general of the National Union of Trade and Restaurant Workers; adding: "The one who must render an account to the voters is the administrator."

In short, the first objective which appeared on the ministry's list for 1980 is to improve the quality of services. We would do well to recall that the ministry is responsible for directing activities, and the People's Government is responsible for executing them.

The function of collecting agricultural products is also incumbent on the Ministry of Domestic Trade. The production is handled by the Ministry of Agriculture and the National Association of Small Farmers (ANAP). One proof of the fact that agriculture will have to stand up on its feet is the following results for 1979: In root vegetables, the plan was fulfilled 53 percent; in garden produce, 54 percent; and in fruit, 63 percent. In comparison with 1978 this represents reductions of about 8, 16 and 25 percent. Let us consider the concrete instance of the root vegetables: In 1979, the production was 146 pounds, equivalent to 57 percent of the planned consumption, and 10 pounds less than that produced in 1978.

The entire burden of an increase does not have to fall on agriculture, because there must be an improvement in the rates of collection, through a better pickup system, wherein the transportation has an effect and the ministry has received a good supply of trucks for its future task; and through a more efficient use of warehouses and cold storage plants, with more meticulous vigilance and requirements.

Finally, we shall deal with quality control. In this regard, we must be well aware of the interrelationship between the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Industry. The proposals for improving the levels of quality did not actually materialize, especially in the areas of footwear, outerwear and underwear, perfumes and cosmetics, and household electrical appliances (installation and repairs).

Insofar as footwear was concerned, 48 percent of the styles were not completed. The ministry had to make refunds on 200,000 pairs, and complaints were submitted on 2,000 pairs for defects in quality. In the area of ready-made clothing, 983,400 garments were returned for defects in quality and grading. In household electrical appliances, the low quality continued regarding assembly of the "Caribe" nationally produced television sets.

What does this situation indicate to us? That when the Ministry of Domestic Trade imposes its standard requirements, it will help to improve the quality in the various branches of industry, although it may at times appear that the level of supply is declining.

The conclusions stated by Flavio Bravo, member of the Central Committee and vice-president of the Council of Ministers' Executive Committee, went a step further in the critical tone of the assembly.

Flavio declared: "The report has been critical. Apart from the shortage of resources, it stresses that many aspects have nothing to do with the material problems."

Flavio then gave notice that 1980 would be an even more tense year than 1979. The general crisis of capitalism, with one of its main results: worldwide inflation; the heightening of the cold war, the problems in arranging supplies abroad and, added to the international situation, our shortcomings, comprise a difficult situation to be faced and resolved.

Flavio stated: "The Ministry of Domestic Trade must play an increasing role as a counterbalancing factor, so that production will better serve the market."

By way of a summary, we shall mention the concrete tasks that he emphasized throughout his address:

In public food, to make the supply flexible. In collection, to guarantee delivery of products and foster provincial exchanges. To intensify systematic inspection: to complete the checker personnel rosters. In the restaurant industry, to make progress so as to be able to use economic resources. To give up rationing: expand the parallel market. In services, to improve them, especially in the city of Havana, the Achilles' heel. To increase the People's Government support to local industries, which are growing more each year without receiving hardly any assistance. To give

priority to investments and to the utilization of warehouses and cold storage plants. Insofar as the incorporation of the Institute of Domestic Demand is concerned, it will represent great assistance for the ministry.

Finally, Flavio emphasized that all the measures that are being adopted to strengthen work discipline must be taken in close association with the union.

Flavio remarked in conclusion: "We salute the Ministry of Domestic Trade for its great sense of responsibility and its great reliability; for the creative assimilation of new methodological activities (restaurant industry, local industries, cold storage plants, collection); and for the exemplary coordination of its work with the People's Government. Because this year will be more tense, we need the same efficiency from the ministry, and much more."

2909

CSO: 3010

YOUTH TECHNICAL BRIGADE STRENGTH UPWARDS OF 86,000

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 26 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] During the award ceremony for the Fourth Youth Scientific and Technical Competition, it was announced that the number of members in the Youth Technical Brigade [BTJ] movement (including members and collaborators) exceeds 86,000.

The purpose of the BTJ's work is to foster and develop the creative spirit of the brigade members, so that this technical potential may respond in the immediate future to the demands imposed by the increasing development of the nation's economy.

In bringing to a close the award ceremony for the Fourth Scientific and Technical Competition convoked by the BTJ's National Council and the Academy of Sciences, Jose R. Fernandez, vice-president of the Council of Ministers and minister of education, stressed the fact that, "The participation of the youth in science and technology must assume a truly organized, massive nature, with its goals set, and must be aimed at giving an impetus to the fulfillment of the economic development plans that we have proposed for ourselves."

The four contests that were held covered 537 subjects pertaining to 18 branches of the economy, and 4,589 reports were submitted, 188 of which received awards.

Participating for the first time in the fourth of this series of competitions were the Ministries of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, Communications, Light Industry, Food Industry and Public Health.

Outstanding for the number of reports submitted were: public health, 573; the educational sector, 396; cane sugar agriculture, 158; livestock raising, 120; sugar industry, 108. These branches account for 77.7 percent of the competing reports.

At the awards ceremony, the 38 prize-winners received their incentive awards, and three of them won the special state prizes given by the Academy of Sciences of Cuba. The ATAC [Cuban Association of Sugar Technicians] gave incentive awards to the two best reports in the sugar sector: sugar cane agriculture and industry.

2909

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CUBA

SOCIALISM USES CYBERNETICS TO HELP MANKIND

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish 15 Feb 80 pp 90-93

[Article by Ricardo Potts Cabrera]

[Text] When "cybernetics"¹ is mentioned, the oldest image we have comes from an old U.S. film made in the 1950s, in which humanity ended up enslaved by the tyranny of "His Majesty the Computer." This film was the product of an alienated society, whose pessimistic vision reflected its lack of faith in the creative capacity of humanity, and so man was fated to be a victim of his own inventions. In our country, 21 years ago the dawn of a glorious January began to sweep away these gloomy shadows, and today no reasonable person is frightened by computers, but a large part of the public is still not well informed about these matters. What do we know of the development of cybernetics in Cuba? What is being done in this field to bring us into the scientific-technical revolution? How is a factory automated? To answer these and other questions, we went to the center that directs these activities: the IMACC [Institute of Mathematics, Cybernetics, and Computers] of the Academy of Sciences, located in the headquarters of the institution in the old capitol building.

Then we will go beyond the technological achievements and mathematical formulas. We also want to get to know the people who do this work, their joys and concerns, for these people, along with the rest of our nation, are immersed in the daily struggle against defects and problems.

The Story of Three Students

Back in 1963, there were once three cheerful students who responded to the call of the revolution and voluntarily joined the FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] to train as skilled cadres for the modernization of our then rudimentary combat technology. After a period of learning and training in Cuba and in the USSR, Jose Carlos Remesar, Sergio Suarez, and Aramis Albuerne became pioneers for today's strong corps of technical officers in our Revolutionary Armed Forces. Once their mission for our homeland was completed, they returned to civilian life and again met in the IMACC. The years have not gone by in vain, and yesterday's adolescents now have less hair, but more knowledge under that hair. All of them hold responsible positions in the IMACC, and even though they are no longer as young, they haven't lost the happiness of those days, and they share each other's enthusiasm for their common field: cybernetics and computer technology.

If you think that a doctoral candidate in physical and mathematical sciences has to be a venerable and circumspect person with white hair and of an advanced age, you would be surprised to meet Jose Carlos Remesar, who is 33 years old, possibly one of the youngest such candidates in Cuba. Remesar is a member of the scientific council of the IMACC, and is also responsible for the computer systems department. Then we met an old acquaintance: Aramis Albuerne, head of the construction and assembly group, whom we interviewed at the time of the BTJ-ANIR [Youth Technical Brigade] Day of the Academy. He is one of the most outstanding innovators in his union in the nation. As we were old comrades in arms, our conversation started out on a familiar basis.

[Question] What are your department's objectives, Carlos?

[Answer] Scientific research can be divided into two main fields: applied and basic research. Basic research produces results in the more or less long term, and sometimes there is no immediate impact on technology, but sooner or later it profoundly affects technology. Applied research is directed toward solving specific problems concerning production and economics, and it can be applied immediately. In the IMACC we pay attention to both fields, and our department is oriented in two main trends: research and development in computer design, logic design², and the mathematical basis for specific lines of research. This means we have to create equipment that does not exist or that we can not obtain on

the market. In the second place, we work on the design and construction of equipment and the development of programs³ to solve specific needs of industry and the economy, oriented toward the automation of technological processes.

[Question] Toward what specific areas is the latter activity directed?

[Answer] A large part of our work in this area is related to sugar production, a vital need of our economy. Now the operation of these industrial processes is based on intuition and the practical knowhow of people with many years of on-the-job experience: shift supervisors, sugar technicians, most of whom are fairly old, and for that reason there are fewer and fewer of them left. Also, we can't go on using these "make-shift" methods if we need to guarantee higher and more stable levels of production. And the optimization of production can only be brought about by using automated control systems.

[Question] What is the basis for that statement?

[Answer] We can't compare the output and the precision of an operator who determines the state of a process and regulates it by using his natural judgment, with the output and precision of high precision automatic equipment. The machine can never totally replace man, but it does form a more perfect artificial extension of man, providing him with a high level of efficiency and therefore of productivity. That is also true for any other industrial production process.

[Question] How can a technological process be automated?

[Answer] Let's take the example of a sugar mill, said Carlos, in which there is an input of raw material and an output produced. In between there are a series of sub-processes: flow of juice, temperature of sugar vats, pressure, draining, etc. Each of these sub-processes has different specific physical variables, represented by the necessary magnitudes of pressure, temperature, and others, which must be maintained at an appropriate level for operation. To establish automated control, we have to identify and measure precisely these variables and then process them mathematically in order to find the optimum parameters that can provide the best output. That means creating at the same time the material support (high precision equipment) and the mathematical basis to attain these objectives. The final result is the creation of the control links that will direct the automated production.

[Answer] Well...okay. But what is a "control link"? Remember, I switched from engineering to journalism.

[Answer] That's very simple, laughed Remesar. We have a common example in the thermostatic control of an air conditioning system. The machine cools until the room temperature reaches a level preset by the user, and then it is automatically disconnected. When the heat rises, it starts to connect and then the cycle begins again. The general principle is the same for industry, except that it is on a larger scale and with greater complexity and precision.

[Question] And what might be the essential components of a control link?

[Answer] They are, answered Aramis, the sensing and measurement devices for the physical variables (sensors), elements for processing of the data (processors), and the elements that act on the mechanisms that modify these variables (actuators). As these may be of different natures (pressure, temperature, etc.), another device is required: the interface, designed to convert them into electronic digital signals⁴ which can be analyzed by a computer, which processes them along with the other data. The results form a sort of control signal, we could say, which has to go through an inverse process through an output interface, that again transforms it into another signal that can be sent to the activator which modifies the variables to be controlled. The latter phase is called the "closing of the control link," and when that happens, the automatic system has been completed.

But to understand all this better, the best thing is to see it in practice with the equipment in front of you, said Remesar. So let's go look around the department.

These concepts are essential for us to understand the work of a collective such as the one we visited, through all the steps from the laboratory design to the start of operation of the prototype. And now that we have given our readers a "minimum technical background," we are ready, together, to start our trip into the world of computers and integrated circuits⁵.

Where Automation is Born

In the digital systems design and programming group, one of the four of the department, the first steps in the creation

of this equipment take place. Here the logic design is developed for each research purpose, or the type of mathematical structure that will become a reality in the machine is determined. We can say that the conception of the automatic device takes place here. But for it to result in an actual birth, it has to be gestated with a minimum possibility of errors. For that reason, the design is tested even before the equipment is built, using simulation language.

How does this "miracle" of technology happen? Simulation language imitates in a mathematical model⁶ the theoretical configuration of the design proposed. It is placed in a computer and the computer takes on (internally at this point) the same logic configuration, by simulating being the project in question. Then its "functioning" is tested by another computer, in order to analyze and be able to correct any possible errors. Later the electronic design and actual construction of the circuits are done; only then will the final "birth" take place.

As most of our present automated equipment of this type uses microprocessors, we also have to develop their operating programs at the same time, which are also tested in the simulation model. So when the actual machine is completed, its operating programs are ready at the same time.

Throughout the entire world there are about 10 languages of the type mentioned, but in Cuba we didn't have any available. The one used in the IMACC, whose first version is giving good results, was developed by Jose Carlos [Remesar] himself, and was the basis for his doctoral dissertation.

[Question] What are the benefits of its application?

[Answer] The fundamental advantage of using simulation language is that through its use we can avoid all the errors that used to be made during the design and construction process. It is a new working tool, an essential tool for the computer systems designer, and we have already received requests for it from some sectors with profiles similar to our own.

From the Physical Variable to the Digital Signal

Youth is a constant among the professionals of the Institute, we thought in greeting Sergio Suarez Guerra, 35 years old,

another of these old comrades in arms, who has successfully defended his doctoral dissertation in physical and technical sciences. The group he heads works on the design and construction of interface equipment for computer systems, which are used for the analysis of analog signals, applied to the control of industrial processes and scientific research.

Our group, explained Sergio, has also done a number of jobs related to the sugar industry, such as the Universal Measurement Unit IC 7102 A which you can see here. It was designed in 1969 and developed in 1970; it can receive analog signals from a hundred different channels, store them in its internal memory unit, and display them in a digital indicator in order to observe any of them at a given moment, or transmit them by a programmed teleprinter in order to obtain reports at pre-set time intervals. These jobs can be done while connected with a digital computer, thus releasing the system from doing these jobs itself.

The measurement unit, interjected Aramis, was shown at the Electronics 79 exposition, and a number of institutions and organizations are interested in it; it can also supervise other industrial processes. It can be used as a replacement for equipment from the dollar area that, in addition to costing about \$5,000, is hard to obtain on the market.

Other pieces of equipment developed in the group are the Neumac-B, an interface between the computer and the technological process, one of which is needed for each control point of the physical variables. Each Neumac-B would mean a savings of several thousand dollars, and if each factory or unit needs 40 or 50, you can get an idea of the total savings. It was developed by Aramis Albuerne.

The Neumac-B, he said, was also shown at the exposition. Its function is connected with the Universal Neumatic Selector, which we also developed, and which converts the physical variables of the sugar process into electronic digital signals for the central computer. Each of them would mean a savings of about \$35,000.

[Question] What are the prospects for production of this equipment?

[Answer] Well, said Aramis, centers like this one are producing prototypes applied to specific research problems, in a limited quantity. But they can't handle mass production. That would take a more developed industrial structure

than what Cuba has. But the automation of industrial processes is a necessary step for the Cuban sugar industry, and that is the prospect toward which we are now working.

During the Electronics 79 exposition, the IMACC showed about 15 pieces of equipment, and the visiting firms ordered about 160 of various types. This shows the needs that exist, and the value of having innovators keep up this constant struggle to produce them in Cuba, replacing imported models. Nonetheless, we were told that at times a firm or organization needs such equipment, but does not order them because of a lack of information and knowledge about the possibilities existing here, and at times they end by ordering them from abroad. We hope that if the problem lies in lack of information, this report will be of some help in improving the situation.

[Question] Well, Sergio, to conclude: what are the prospects in relation to industry?

[Answer] At this time we are preparing for a test of the Neumatic Selector in the Smith Comas Sugar Mill in Matanzas, as the sugar mills are still our main target. We will continue to develop this line of equipment for the control of technological processes, signal analysis, and some applications in medicine.

Continuing our visit, we came to the display equipment group, headed by another young doctoral candidate, Edgardo Felipe, 36 years old, who was also a technical officer in the FAR.

His group, he told us, specializes in the design and construction of alphanumeric display consoles, and it was the most recently established group. For that reason, the first prototype has not yet been completed. With it we can read on a color TV screen the data placed in a computer system, and receive the information required or test the processing of data being done, then printing them on a graphic register.

The Role of the Printed Circuit

Aramis is now acting as our guide, taking us through different sections of his group, in which the prototypes are converted into finished pieces of equipment. In his group is the machine shop, where Medina and Jaume--two skilled technicians with over 20 years of experience in the field--produce upon request the at times diminutive items needed

for the projects. The last stops of our visit were in the sections where an essential component, without which no design could become a reality, is produced; the printed circuit, the plastic plate that contains dozens of electronic components, and replaces with both functionality and beauty the old mazes of wiring used in the past.

And that is the right expression--functionality and beauty--we were told by Guillermo Lamadrid, a technician in the section. The master design is an artistic and technical achievement, that requires a knowledge of electronics in order to be able to interpret a logic circuit on paper and to bring it to its final physical form on the printed circuit, arranging its elements in a harmonious and esthetic manner, without losing its functional features.

Shortly afterward, we came to a tiny cubicle, where a strange machine automatically does a job that would demand superhuman patience from a human being: the ADIMAP equipment is drawing the design of a printed circuit.

The precision of this machine, explained the technician Jose Martinez, is 30 microns; it prints the designs in ink or using an optical head on a sheet of insulating material covered on both sides with a fine layer of copper. A later chemical processing eliminates the metal not protected by the drawing, leaving only the metal of the circuit.

This machine is the only one of its kind in Cuba, added Aramis. It was donated by the Academy of Sciences of Hungary, and uses a punched tape made by a computer, thus keeping errors down to a minimum. Until now we had to have the tapes prepared in another center, since we didn't have a program suitable for our computers. But now an engineer, Diego Felipe, another of the group of former FAR officers, has developed one that lets us process the tape in our CID-201B. And we did need this system; we are constantly getting more requests about it from other institutions interested in its work.

Dusk is beginning to fall in the late afternoon when, tired but satisfied, we conclude our visit. When we leave, we remember that this huge building was built by a savage and bloodthirsty tyrant, and we reflect on the useful fate given it by the Revolution. Where would these young scientists be today if it had not been for that victorious January? Our friends would never have studied in the USSR, nor obtained

their academic degrees. How many potential talents would have been lost, through indifference or poor management? But today we can say in all confidence that with scientists such as these, we can laugh at the absurd fear of the "thinking machines," a fear still felt in many of the capitalist countries. Because thanks to socialism, these young professionals can truly place cybernetics at the service of humanity.

15 Years of the IMACC: Development and Prospects

In 1964 the departments of mathematics and cybernetics were established at the Academy of Sciences. Almost 10 years later these were to be merged in the present IMACC, which combines over 15 years of work in these fields. Dr Mario Estrada, the deputy director of research of the IMACC, spoke with BOHEMIA about the development and future prospects of the institute.

"Since the time of our unification, the development has been continuous, although we did have some problems in getting qualified cadres, which is not very easy in activities such as these. In 1974 we had 70; we now have 85, and although the growth has not been great in terms of quantity, it has been in terms of quality. Then we had only one doctoral candidate, and now we have seven, in addition to four others who will soon complete their theses and prepare to defend them in the USSR and in Bulgaria."

"The institute is the center of all of the Academy's computer work. In this area, we provide consulting services for almost all of the scientists of the Academy, and help in their training with a number of courses on introduction to computers and programming languages, so that our researchers will be able to write their own programs. We also work on information systems for planning and control of the scientific-research work in the Academy. In relation to our nation, we work on investigations of control theory and its applications to industrial processes, developing appropriate methods and programs as well as the necessary equipment. In this way we can provide a replacement for foreign technology, as a way of contributing to the solution of Cuba's economic problems."

"Our prospects are good, since we have a solid base of highly skilled personnel, and the Academy's prestige has grown, which means that it will be assigned new jobs, material and human resources, and will occupy its rightful place in Cuba's

research activity. Furthermore, scientific work is becoming more complex and requires the formation of collectives to be able to handle the complex tasks of economic development. Fewer and fewer individual scientists are working alone, and more is being done collectively. Without bearing this in mind, it is impossible to advance in any important job in this field."

"One of the jobs assigned the Academy in the law on the functions of state organs is the orientation and coordination of the activities of free basic research, oriented basic research, and applied research. We have not been able to develop mathematicians in the quantity and quality required, but in the institute we can continue to promote this activity, and we hope that in the not far distant future we may also have comrades who are outstanding in theoretical mathematics. We can not forget that science is today part of our productive activities, since its achievements make a great contribution to the increase in production and services, and its achievements continue to be applicable in shorter periods of time.

Glossary of Technical Terms

1. Cybernetics. The study of control systems and communications between human beings and electronic machines such as computers.
2. Logic design. Planning of a computer or other digital system before its detailed electronic design.
3. Computer programs. A series of instructions or orders prepared in a way that can be used by the computer, whose purpose is to guide the computer to obtain an accurate result in solving a problem.
4. Digital signal. A signal whose value is expressed in ones and zeros, as its magnitude is stated in a binary and not continuous form.
5. Integrated circuit. A combination of inseparably interconnected electronic elements, placed inside a component or chip only several square millimeters in size.
6. Mathematical model. Set of equations that define specific characteristics of an object, process, or machine.

7. Microprocessor. Central processor of a computer, generally miniaturized within a single integrated circuit. It can be used to place a huge amount of complex circuits in a very small space, as in pocket calculators and space satellites.
8. Analog signal. Signal whose magnitude varies in a continuous manner.

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. p 91. A view of the digital systems group. In the background, doctoral candidate Remesar is running a test on some equipment. In the foreground is another specialist assembling a printed circuit.
2. p 91. Candidate for the doctorate in technical sciences Edgardo Felipe, along with another specialist, during the assembly of an alphanumeric panel in the display group.
3. p 93. Aramis Albuerne, head of the construction and assembly group, testing a logic circuit assembly.

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CSO: 3010

MANAGERS, CLERKS CAUGHT IN RETAIL, SERVICE VIOLATIONS

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 12 Mar 80 p 1

[Text] As has been announced to the population, the Ministry of Domestic Trade, in coordination with the provincial sectorial directorates of the People's Government and the Economic Police, has been making systematic inspections of commercial, restaurant and service establishments throughout the entire country.

On this occasion, a total of 334 units related to food and industrial products, butcher shops, restaurant units and service shops affiliated with the provinces of Havana, Santiago de Cuba and Guantanamo were inspected.

The violations committed most frequently were:

Not supplying products in stock; products missing from storage, according to controls that have been established; violation of technical standards; non-compliance with the official price schedule; deception of consumers; diversion of funds; abuse in the exercise of a position; absence of plastic containers; concealment of items; destruction of official documents.

As a result of this effort, 93 workers, 39 of whom are managers, have been placed at the disposal of the courts.

2909

CSO: 3010

PEASANT FREE MARKET ESTABLISHED

Decree-Law Issued

FL051324 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1045 GMT 5 Apr 80 FL

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers has issued Decree-Law 66 which establishes the regulations for the creation and operation of a peasant free market. The document states that the existence of a peasant free market to sell surplus or marginal products will help increase demand on the part of the population at large and their food needs will be better met. The document says that it is necessary to make it easier for the peasant to sell products left over from his contracts with collection centers, and that the creation of the free market would include both agricultural and livestock production by persons residing in rural as well as urban areas.

According to Decree-Law 66, cooperatives of agricultural-livestock production, credit or services, individual cooperative members and small farmers may sell at these free markets. The areas in state enterprises that produce for their own needs may also sell at these markets.

Free Market Sales Regulated

FL051956 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1835 GMT 5 Apr 80 FL

[Text] The Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers has approved Decree No 66 which regulates the marketing of surplus or marginal agricultural and livestock products. The new measure will contribute to an increase in demand among the population and raise the level of their food needs [as heard]. The decree explains that marginal products are those that are not marketed by the state collection network. The new regulation states that agricultural and livestock production, credit and services cooperatives as well as individual cooperative members, small farmers, and sectors in state agricultural and livestock enterprises that produce for their own needs may sell their products on the market. The decree on the peasant free market states that prices will be agreed upon freely between sellers and buyers.

Decree No 66 says that aside from cooperative members, persons residing in Urban or agricultural areas who legally own plots or gardens with certain agricultural crops may also sell their products. Surplus in production for the state agricultural and livestock enterprises workers' own can also be sold. The document adds that workers who are duly authorized to have planted plots or gardens will be the only ones allowed to sell at their own homes as long as they are paying the established tax. The aforementioned authorizations exclude those persons who have planted in areas that are completely urbanized and densely populated in Havana and other cities where water supply may be limited.

The new decree states that when sellers use space and installations belonging to a commercial company, they must pay the corresponding rent. The regulations also forbid the sale of agricultural and livestock products to middlemen because this activity is illegal and penalized by the penal code. The sellers will be able to rent or purchase from individuals or state enterprises the containers they may need. The same applies when they need transportation to move merchandise to the marketplace. Article 14 of the decree states that all agricultural and livestock products may be sold on the peasant free market with the exception of cattle, beef, tobacco, coffee and cacao.

CSO: 3010

SCOFFLAWS PERSIST IN ILLEGAL POWER HOOKUPS

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 13 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] Cienfuegos--A total of 17 citizens residing in Villa Clara Province, and several heads of family households in Sancti Spiritus and this territory, were penalized by the authorized courts for violating the laws in effect and fostering the creation of new electric "hookups."

Jose Luis Mederos Santo was fined 180 shares of a peso, and also required to pay 81 more pesos in indemnification to the Central Transmission and Distribution Enterprise (ETDC) for the crime of stealing power, committed in the locality of Quemado de Guines.

Lazaro Perez, Ramiro Aguila, Juan Vega, Rafael Aguila, Rolando Plasencia, Rafael Perez, Luis Vega and Eladio Rivero were punished with fines of 40 and 15 pesos for establishing an illegal "hookup" from the La Criolla Dairy, in the municipality of Santo Domingo, Villa Clara, to their respective places of residence.

Fines of 20 pesos were imposed on the citizens Ceferino Victor Turino and Frank Ramos de Armas, when the former enabled Ramos de Armas to obtain electric power from his meter through a "hookup" which he arranged in his house, located in the settlement of Manicaragua.

Another group of individuals residing in the provinces of Sancti Spiritus and Cienfuegos was also turned over to the competent authorities for making unauthorized electrical connections, and for stealing power from the Central Transmission and Distribution Enterprise and its territorial units.

2909
CSO: 3010

CIGAR, CIGARETTE RATIONING SITUATION EXPLAINED

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 13 Mar 80 p 1

[Text] During a meeting this morning at the headquarters of the party's Central Committee, Daniel Solana, vice-minister of MINAL [Ministry of the Food Industry], announced that the sale of cigarettes, and of both dark and bright tobacco, will be kept at the normal levels, as will the allotments that are distributed according to quotas in the shops.

In the case of cigars, only the standard amount sold in shops will be maintained, because as a result of the blue mold it is impossible to guarantee the production levels required to keep them as an unrationed product.

The damage caused by the pest to the current tobacco crop has been extremely serious, and it may be said that this area of our economy has never suffered such harm, which will have a negative effect on the entry of hard currency into the country.

To give an idea of the volumes, we might point out that, out of 5,000 caballerias planned for planting for the 1979-80 crop, as of 31 December 1979 the number amounted to only 2,673; and, of that number, 718 had to be totally destroyed.

The efforts of agriculture to check the blue mold were intrepid. In some locations the seed beds had to be started as many as three times. In others, after destroying the plants and restarting the sowing, it was noted that the effort was in vain, because the disease appeared again. In this endeavor, the attitude of the farmers, workers and managing cadres, who battled the pest most strenuously, is worthy of note.

The task required very intensive effort in various respects. There were plantings outside of the schedule; large amounts of pesticides were applied and imports were even made, on an experimental basis, of a new chemical product the results of which in controlling the fungus have been favorable; and sufficient amounts have been acquired to begin using it on the next crop.

Despite all that has been mentioned, at the decision of the party and government, our people will not suffer a lack of cigarettes for their consumption.

This measure means that our country, known as a traditional exporter of leaf tobacco and cigars, will have to import certain amounts of the leaf, abolish the sale of unstemmed tobacco and reduce the sales of the famous Havana cigars, with a reputation of international renown.

It is the policy of the Cuban tobacco industry not to make Havana cigars with any other type of tobacco that is not completely harvested and cured in the country; and, for this reason, cigar exports will be curtailed, so as to guarantee their traditional quality.

In 1977, 1978 and 1979, various factors, mainly adverse weather conditions, caused serious economic damage; because it was impossible, for these reasons, to fulfill completely the potential for sales on international markets.

The decline in the 1978-79 crop was due in some degree to the blue mold. Now in 1979-80, with a recurrence of the disease, the damage has been far greater.

As a result of the pressing need for making blends with tobacco of other origins, the quality of the Cuban cigarette has deteriorated, in both flavor and aroma; because the imported raw material is not first-rate like the Cuban.

As for the cigarettes with bright tobacco filler, apart from the fact that the industry will receive an amount 76 percent less than that in the budget, their sales may be guaranteed thanks to supplies from previous crops.

According to the data that have been supplied, our industries should manufacture about 230 million cigars this year, and a similar number in 1981; but the lack of raw material means that they can only guarantee those included in the basic quota to the population.

In 1979, sales on the parallel market represented 79,900,000 cigars; and the drastic reduction in volumes has caused a shutdown in the factories run by the People's Government organs, as well as in a large group of industries producing cigars, and those for collection and processing within the MINAL.

The number of workers whose work has been stopped, amounting to 26,000, will receive a subsidy of 70 percent of the wages that they were earning so long as the unemployment lasts (estimated until the second half of 1981).

In instances wherein they can be relocated, they will receive the subsidy, plus the wage related to the new job that they are to perform.

2909

CSO: 3010

SHOE QUALITY PROBLEM DISCUSSED BY BOOT FACTORY WORKERS

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 3 Mar 80 p 2

[Text] The topic of footwear is inexhaustible: There is criticism that it is not geared to the demands of style, that there is little variety in the styles and the sizes, and, particularly, that the finishing on this essential item of human garb is poor.

We recently had occasion to witness the checkup on the emulation entitled "To the Rescue of Quality in Footwear," held at the Camilo Cienfuegos enterprise in Havana; at which, with a sampling of 87 styles, there was evidence of the desire of the workers from the 30-year vanguard movement in this branch of industry to demonstrate what they are capable of accomplishing and to reject everything representing shoddy work and lack of initiative.

From the exchange of views that was prompted by this meeting, there resulted this article, the purpose of which is to publicize the opinions of the young people participating in the various production processes at the work boot factory in Managua.

This establishment may perhaps not be the most typical, inasmuch as that type of footwear has been well received lately by those using it, but the selection of this center was based precisely on the range of styles which they offered at the exhibit, and which could be manufactured there with the pertinent technological adjustments and personnel training.

The administration of this factory, with nearly 300 workers, is assigned to Mateo Gomez Ramirez, a young man who has spent 13 years in that facility, 3 of them in this position. He tells us that what is most important to them is producing the 2,400 pairs of boots per day assigned to them with good quality, and that this is happening, owing to the workers' constant concern for having the product leave with the necessary finishing.

With regard to the prototypes that they have designed for possible approval by the Ministry of Light Industry, he tells us that the footwear industry's 3-year vanguard movement, which is represented at the center by 42 comrades, has expended an effort aimed at creating simpler and more durable styles which will meet the people's requirements, in particular, and be in keeping with the prevailing fashion.

In this regard, Oscar Gonzalez, 26 years of age, a member of the UJC [Union of Young Communists] and chief of the leather cutting department, remarks that, although he does not belong to the movement (which includes the workers who have spent 3 or more decades employed in the industry), the young people at the center intend to maintain the reputation that the boot enjoys among the workers who wear it.

"We have had an interesting experience here. During the 11th Festival, some shoes were made which had been thought up by a comrade of ours, Angel Fria, who is in the movement. The style is attractive and functional, and the shoe is made with pigskin trim.

"They were few in number, because they were made virtually by hand; since the people were not trained either for the cutting or the preparation in general. The reaction was that all the fellows in the factory wanted a pair, and they know that they can be produced with but few resources. But, anyway, that was for the Festival.

"I think that now, with the proposal to find out whether this sports model is to be included in our production line, we can at least decide on the variety; and perhaps, instead of making the work boots in the amounts that we have in the plan, we may devote ourselves to making this shoe, which will be widely accepted by the population."

We find Maritza Perez, 19 years of age, at her trimming machine; and she also gives us her opinion of the work that is being done. "The quality of the work is a matter of conscience: If one does not think about what he is doing, he will not do it well. I don't think that the shoes made in other factories are on a par with the conditions. The styles are ugly, and are repeated.

"Our center has devised several styles which did not materialize later. It is true that work boots are greatly needed, but if they were to give us a chance to manufacture another type of footwear which we know that we can make here, even if it were with volunteer work, I think that it would help to vary the shoes that our people demand."

And after listening to other opinions, all aimed at improving the image of this heavily criticized branch of light industry, we have no doubt that, in the battle to solve the material problems and those associated with subjective factors, which have cropped up, our footwear will recover the desired quality that we all expect.

2909

CSO: 3010

POLL SHOWS PEOPLE PREFER FICTION FILMS NOT DOCUMENTARIES

Havana CINE CUBANO in Spanish No 95, 1979 pp 50-54

[Public opinion survey by Roberto Roque and Pablo Ramos, research section, Motion Picture Information Center: "The Public Expresses Its Opinion on Cuban Movies"]

[Text] Just 20 years back into the past from this March 1979, the revolutionary government established the Cuban Institute of Cinematographic Arts and Industry and, through it, the Cuban motion picture industry. Those are just a few years judging by the long yardstick necessary to understand a cultural movement which started from scratch and which became a moving force on its level and with respect to the aspirations of national culture; but there are also intensive and multiple tasks and efforts confronting the creation and development of Cuban motion pictures, with results in terms of specific works, the award of international prizes, communication with the Cuban people as such, the process of its development as an active public with respect to motion pictures designed as a fact of cultural participation. These results underscore the intensity and duty of those few years since that March 1959, since that first step taken by the triumphant revolution in the cultural area.

Therefore and as a way to enable the nation directly to participate in this commemoration--this people toward whom was directed daily creative effort down through those 20 years and which is our spectator, the principal addressee and sensitive receiver--the research section of the Motion Picture Information Center conducted a survey of almost 700 comrades in various walks of life and in the economy in the city of Havana for the purpose of getting them to express their opinions on this effort which was developed in many various fields of cultural endeavor, such as Cuban films, both fiction and documentary, foreign films from various national motion picture establishments, television programs, ICAIC [Cuban Institute of Cinematographic Arts and Industry] news reports, posters and notices, etc.

Because of the number of comrades who responded, this survey is not representative of the entire Cuban people; but the results presented here are significant regarding the tendencies in which we can group the opinions

on Cuban motion pictures among the public as a whole. On the other hand, these results essentially agree with earlier opinion studies conducted by the section over the past two years; this constitutes important indirect verification.

We are presenting these results here and in so doing, the spectators have the floor.

The participation of spectators in motion picture events inevitably begins by going to the movies. This is also an obligatory beginning in the formation of their opinions; our spectators go to the movies frequently, on an average of more than three times a month. If we compare that result to other countries with great motion picture tradition and experience, (for example, France with 5.5 movie attendances in 12 months), we can see that this is a really high attendance figure.

On the basis of this average attendance figure we can furthermore say that the Cuban people present a marked level of expectation regarding Cuban movies. Due to this preference, 99.42 percent of the audience responded that they are going everytime Cuban movies are shown. If we compare the preference of the public in terms of the various national origins of the films shown, we can see that Cuban motion pictures occupy a privileged position among the first four places.

Of course, all of this suggests that Cuban movies please the public but what would the spectators respond if they were asked clearly whether or not they like them? Well, 54.64 percent said that they generally liked the Cuban movies shown, while 7.55 percent stated that they were satisfied with them only on few occasions. The rest, holding a position in between, mentioned specific cases when they liked or did not like our Cuban movies and that position can be tied in with the titles which will be given later on as the titles that pleased the audience most.

Well, now, what is the opinion of the public on the movies it saw? Were they instructive or entertaining? In what way does the spectator believe that the relationship is established between instruction and entertainment in Cuban movies? We want to make it clear here that we took into account only these two functions of motion pictures, among the many which we have here, with a view to establishing a polarization between recreational and exclusively cognitive factors, as we shall see. There is no doubt that they believe that movies have an important cognitive function; 72.67 percent said that they find movies instructive to watch. Along with this conclusion, 58.71 percent admitted that the movies they saw were entertaining. This is very important in making sure that they will use their spare time by going to see our movies. Thus, 55.23 percent of the spectators combine entertainment with instruction and this is a genuine merit of Cuban national movies.

But, does this apply to the entire output or only a part of it? What part? There seems to be every indication that fiction movies are preferred over documentaries by 86.04 percent of the spectators. If we compare fiction movies to wide-film documentaries, on the basis that both are, shall we say, the "main course" of any showing in the movies, then we note that 90.8 percent of the public preferred the former while only 9.2 percent selected the wide-film documentaries as their preferred fare.

In stating this preference, the spectators mentioned the following films as those they liked most among Cuban national motion picture production: "El Brigadista," "El Hombre de Maisinicu," "Las Doce Sillas," "Memorias del Subdesarrollo," "La Muerte de un Burocrata," and "Lucia"--all of them being fiction movies.

There is no doubt that the daily life of the spectators, along with the practice and experience of their participation in the showing of films, caused certain necessities and preferences to be formed which show reflected in the film those very problems and topics which are most satisfactory for the people when it comes to deciding how to spend their free time. What are those preferences with respect to Cuban movies? What problems and topics do the people want to see taken up in Cuban movies? Let us mention the most important ones: 56.97 percent want to see problems of the construction of socialism in Cuba taken up on the screen; 51.74 percent want films on police topics, which certainly involves the preference for this topic that is promoted by the appearance and significance of police literature in Cuban publications. Historical films are preferred by 47.67 percent of the audience while those dealing with love got the nod from 47.09 percent; finally, the need for amusement means that 34.40 percent of those questioned prefer comedy films.

The Latin American ICAI news reports constitute a part of Cuban motion picture production, but with independent characteristics. Because of the importance of these reports, we will analyze the opinions of spectators on the various aspects involved here.

First of all, we want to find out whether the spectators really saw some of the news films when they went to the movies. The answer is almost unanimous: 98.83 percent answered affirmatively, in obvious contrast to 1.17 percent who said that they had not seen them.



99.42 percent of the sample went to see Cuban movies.

On that basis we can ask whether they really liked the news films they saw. The result is equally conclusive: 45.93 percent maintained that they always like them and this, along with the 39.53 percent who said that they liked them generally, would mean that 85.46 percent had a definite preference for the Latin American news films of the ICAIC. Next, the 13.94 percent of the spectators said that, on occasion, they were satisfied with the news films, whereas a small number of comrades indicated that they never liked them (0.58 percent).

During the last period of time, news films did a critical job with respect to organizational shortcomings, lack of control over resources, as well as respect for the population from some of the production and service sectors, basically in the city of Havana. What do the spectators think of that effort? Do they think these were constructive criticisms or, on the contrary, do they feel that they were destructive? They were undoubtedly constructive because 96.36 percent supported that opinion. In the minority we had 2.03 percent who maintained that the criticism was destructive; there were even less comrades (1.59 percent) who never saw any criticism in any of those news films.

Alright, the criticisms are constructive but do they help solve problems or do they not? Now, 92.00 percent of the spectators responded that they felt *that* criticism was very important because, as a matter of fact, it helped solve problems raised; only 1.74 percent said that this did not help at all. On the other hand, 0.72 percent expressed the opinion that it is harmful to make these criticisms because they create discontent and resentment among the comrades who are criticized; this prevents the problems from being solved. Finally, a somewhat larger group of spectators (5.52 percent) suggested that it does not matter whether or not these criticisms are expressed because nobody pays any attention to them.

Thus we see that our public, whose members go to the movies very frequently, requires a motion picture turnover in keeping with habits and necessities connected with the employment of spare time. The opinions offered as to whether films are changed at the motion picture houses with adequate frequency are very interesting: more than half of the spectators (67.51 percent) felt that the frequency was adequate; nevertheless, 28.65 percent stated that films should be changed more often; and 3.82 percent wanted the films to be run longer on certain occasions.

But the public also wants a variety of films in accordance with the nationality. How is this need met? Are the different foreign motion picture products shown in various ways in Cuban movie houses? What does the public think? Well, 90.59 percent believe that there is a variety of films in accordance with their national origin although more than half of them (54.66 percent) believed that, in spite of this variety, film from some countries do predominate. Only 9.09 percent said that films from a few countries are shown all the time.

And what about the topics? Are they also varied? This aspect is very important since it is directly involved in the population's cultural and recreational needs. Well, 83.52 percent felt that the topics taken up in the moview shown are indeed varied; some of them, however, in other words, 74.39 percent, stated that certain topics are repeated with some frequency; only 16.46 percent maintained that the topics are very repetative.

In the complex of areas of cultural work, which the Cuban motion picture industry addresses itself to, we have two television programs which for almost 10 years have been on the screens of our television sets weekly. They are "24 X Segundo" and "La Historia del Cine." What kind of job have those programs been doing over those past years in the opinion of spectators.

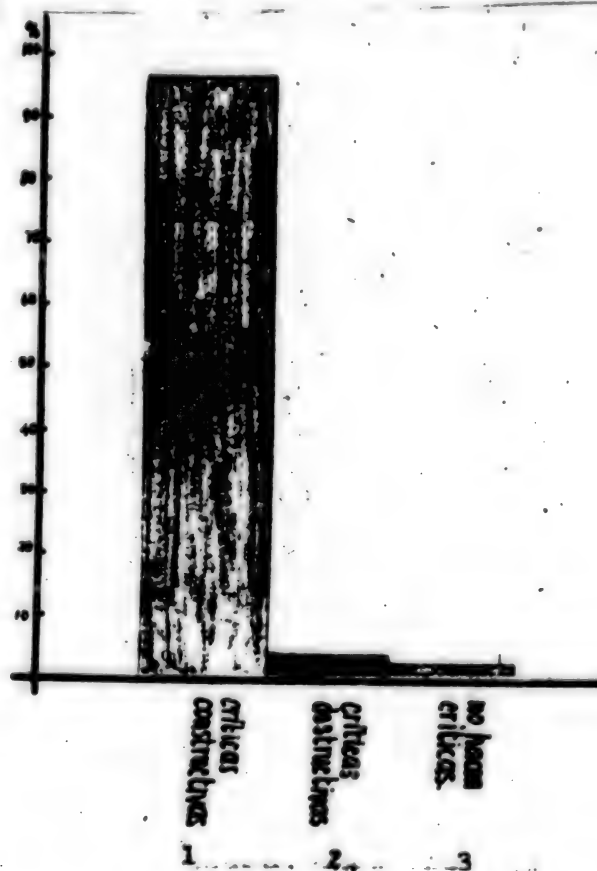
One can say, almost without fear of being wrong, that everybody watches them. The certainty in this statement is underscored by the large number of viewers who responded in this fashion: 96.75 percent (97.02 percent for "La Historia del Cine" and 96.38 percent "24 Por Segundo"), which enables us to say there are no significant differences in the number of television viewers for each of these programs.

Although both programs are being watched equally, preference was expressed in favor of "24 Por Segundo" with 62.79 percent. Nevertheless, "La Historia del Cine" has the support and preference of 37.21 percent; this at any rate represents an important and significant segment of television viewers.

One of the most important functions of these programs is to help create better understanding of motion pictures as a form of language and a means of ideological dissemination. It is a fundamental thing here to find out whether those programs, in the opinion of spectators (who in this case

become television viewers), really perform that function. According to 24.99 percent, they do not or they do only on certain occasions; but those who state the opposite, in other words, those who say that they always or generally do their job, represent a majority segment with 72.67 percent, which is why can conclude that this is the opinion which prevails significantly.

As the last major segment analyzed by the public, we report opinions on the Cuban motion picture posters. First of all it is important and necessary for us to note how many saw them and whether they are familiar with them; here, 90.97 percent said that they are familiar with them and that represents a great achievement in terms of nationwide dissemination. Nevertheless, seeing them and being familiar with them is not the same as saying whether or not they like them. What are tastes here anyway? Undoubtedly, tastes are rather divided: there are 49.02 percent who say that they always liked them while those who maintained that they only liked some accounted for a very similar figure (47.98 percent). Of course, in both cases there is a preference for the posters although there is a difference in terms of degree, in terms of the importance for this preference, whereas on the opposite side we have those who assured us that they never liked the posters (2.98 percent).



Opinion on critical statements in ICAIC news films. Key: 1--Constructive criticism; 2--Destructive criticism; 3--No criticisms.

Opinions on Frequency of Film Showings

The problem of whether posters are liked can be tied in with their artistic capacity and their communicative capacity, that is to say, whether they really provide information on movies. Spectators who maintain that the posters are good and provide information on movies account for 51.61 percent; but those who criticized them, charging that they are not related to the particular motion picture, although they are good as such, account for 42.66 percent, that is to say, a rather large segment of the motion picture audience; then we also have those people who do not credit those posters with any artistic quality but who maintain that they do provide information on movies; those people are few in number but they do account for 4.82 percent; finally, in an even smaller proportion, we have those who do not credit the posters with any of those virtues (3.91 percent).

These responses, reported succinctly, enable us at least to become familiar with a very small sector, the complex of criteria and opinions of the movie-going public about the job done by the Cuban motion picture industry over these past 20 years. It also enables us to turn this into a source of analysis and reflection for the further development of motion picture work which in fact is its function as a process of research.



Key: 1--Adequate frequency; 2--Should be changed more often; 3--Should run longer.

5058
CSO:3010

BRIEFS

ELECTRIC POWER THEFT--The People's Municipal Court of Mariel sentenced 15 individuals who committed the crime of stealing electricity to 6 months and a day in prison and suspended their active and passive voting rights for the same length of time as the main penalty, as stipulated in Article 383 of the Penal Code currently in force. Those penalized installed, without permission, a collective electric hookup from the line emerging from the Rene Aray Cement Factory in Mariel, which supplies the El Mosquito dam. Upon learning of the incident, the administrator of the aforementioned factory ordered the illegal installation removed, but the defendants installed it again; which is why it became necessary for the authorized organ of justice to take action. Those involved in Case No 79 of 1980 are: Alberto Perez Gutierrez, Francisco Eduardo Marchante Cabrera, Giordano Carcache Ortiz, Luis Urrea Mantilla, Juan Antonio Urrea Mantilla, Pedro Solis Fernandez, Ovidio Perez Perez, Alejandro Velazquez Diaz, Carlos Perez Gonzalez, Benjamin Perez Perez, Ricardo Geray Mendez, Bienvenido Gomez Perez, Eliodoro Valdes Illa and Argelio Perez Gonzalez. [Text] [Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 6 Mar 80 p 6] 2909

IDENTITY CARD OFFICE NIGHT HOURS--Havana--The Identity Card and Population Registry Directorate informs all citizens that, owing to the considerable public visits to conduct business in the municipal identity card and population registry units in the city of Havana, since 4 February a special night-time schedule has been initiated to serve the public in those units, which will be in effect until 14 March. The municipal units of the CIRP [Identity Card and Population Registry] in the city of Havana will keep this special night schedule for the remainder of March, but only on Wednesdays and Fridays of each week, from 1800 to 2200 hours; in other words, on Wednesday, 19 and 26 March, and Friday, 21 and 28 March. [Text] [Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 13 Mar 80] 2909

CSO: 3010

DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON ROLE OF ARMED FORCES

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 4 Mar 80 p 35

[Interview with Col Jose Guillermo Garcia, minister of defense and public security, on television program "El pueblo quiere saber"; time and place not given]

[Text] [Question] What was the purpose of the Armed Forces' participation in the occupation of the rural estates?

[Answer] The first intention of the occupation was to guarantee the process. Everyone knows that on 15 October the Armed Forces made a proclamation which defines those objectives of making changes for the benefit of the Salvadoran people.

Our participation, which guarantees that process, has consisted simply and exclusively of providing protection for the technical elements who have made the process a reality. Our presence showed that we are guaranteeing the process. Perhaps it is worth noting that the presence of the Armed Forces in these places has taken place only where absolutely indispensable, because there really are places where the public forces or Armed Forces have had to withdraw rapidly, because the peasants themselves have taken over the protection of their own security.

[Question] During that occupation of the rural estates, was there any type of serious opposition put up by the former landowners?

[Answer] As of right now we do not have any indication of that, so we are sure that to date the program has been a true success.

We have not encountered true opposition; on the contrary, we feel that the occupation has been well received, and consequently there has been no need to fire a single shot in the occupation of these lands. This pleases us, and all Salvadorans should be proud of this.

[Question] Staying with the idea of the Armed Forces occupation of rural estates, what has been the attitude of the peasantry?

[Answer] We are pleased with the positive attitude of the peasants toward the presence of the Armed Forces and the experts. In this case, since the action was so sudden, naturally there could have been any reaction on the part of the rural residents. Fortunately, we are gratified to report that in the places that have been taken over, the reception has been generally positive. There are cases in various localities in which the peasants themselves, at this very moment, are giving the soldiers food. This gives us great satisfaction, because it is now a concrete fact that represents the symbolic understanding between the peasantry and the Armed Forces.

In all sincerity, I would also like to point out that there are places where, due to the same sudden events, in the beginning there was a certain amount of doubt. As we all know, propaganda has led people to believe (mainly the peasants, but all of the population) that those of us who wear uniforms are too aggressive, that we are too uncivilized to take action. We do not believe this. Of course all this caused the rural residents to regard us with some reserve, but fortunately that has been overcome.

[Question] What has been the role of the Armed Forces in the interventions in the banking institutions?

[Answer] Our participation also involved the element of surprise, which was very important, but of course we had a positive approach. The security personnel, along with the technical personnel, made their presence known in the various banks. I can also report with satisfaction that the reception was acceptable as well, to the point that in some banks the uniformed people were even applauded.

[Question] How do the security forces intend to arrest the common criminals who are plaguing the nation?

[Answer] Perhaps there will be a more technical role in terms of the investigation of the crimes. I say this because we are just as concerned as the rest of the citizens about this crime wave that is gripping the country in a truly moving way. We know that the investigation is a very difficult part of the process, but we are responsible, and we are aware that this is one of our principal obligations. We believe that we can improve our performance with increased technical know-how, and especially with our great interest. The security forces should get involved specifically in combatting crime and disorder. Although you are referring to a general problem, perhaps it is worth noting specifically that we are all concerned about these recent crimes that have been committed involving abandoned bodies that have been tortured. This is a shameful phenomenon which truly offends all Salvadorans. I would like to take this opportunity to tell you that we are aware that the Armed Forces have had nothing to do with this; we have scrupulously and carefully tried to impress upon everyone throughout our institutions that the Armed Forces have no reason to stain their hands with blood. I think we are the first to counteract, criticize and condemn this barbarous mentality, which is really poisoning and dishonoring our people. I emphasize that we are concerned about this. I would like to say, to guarantee nearly 99 percent that the Armed Forces have had absolutely nothing to do with this.

[Question] How can the pacification of the country be pursued without resorting exclusively to forceful measures?

[Answer] I feel that understanding and justice can play a fundamental and basic role in achieving success with this, and it is through that understanding and through that justice that we can eliminate violence, because there will be no reason for violence to exist. At present we cannot explain why there is still violence, when the process of development is already underway. Then why hinder the process? Who could be interested in stopping the process?

[Question] What has been and is being done to put an end to kidnappings and assassinations of politicians, which are being carried out by both leftist and rightist subversive movements?

[Answer] What has been done is that we have tried to find out, to investigate and determine who it is that is doing this. Then we are trying to punish them accordingly, under the law. This is a very difficult issue, particularly the matter of kidnappings. It is hard to find out who these people are. Full identification is difficult; I think it is a mission and a challenge for the security forces. What we are more concerned about are the savage crimes, because there is torture going on, which offends human dignity.

I think that the day these people are found will be a day of satisfaction for the entire nation, because that is what we want to know: where does so much evil come from? What is the origin of this wickedness that all Salvadorans are now repudiating?

[Question] Now that the Armed Forces have publicly and repeatedly declared that they identify with the people, could you use your authority to guarantee that this position will be maintained, and that the process of change will become established?

[Answer] I believe that the guarantee has existed not just right now, but for a long time. There is a basic reason for this: The members of the Armed Forces, at the first levels, are people who understand this problem. I am referring to our soldiers, who come primarily from rural areas. It is there that they have become free and developed, and of course they know that environment. Therefore, the soldier is perhaps the best guarantee that this process will continue, and that it will be implemented. The Armed Forces are willing to guarantee this process. We are aware that this process means salvation for the country.

In El Salvador, absolutely all Salvadorans must do our part and make some sacrifice so that the Salvadoran people can rise up again in peace and understanding.

All of us must help to restructure the future of this country. We know that, but only reason and the power of conviction will make us achieve these objectives, and the future will prove that it was an entire people, through reason and understanding, that achieved a goal that was set for us with God's help.

We are of the people, we come from the people. We do not want to be misunderstood; we are as human and sensitive as you.

I think the process has received total support from the majority of the Salvadoran people, but within the Armed Forces we can say that it has received total support from everyone.

8926

CSO: 3010

FAPU SAYS PEOPLE ORGANIZED NATIONWIDE

PA030402 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Apr 80 PA

[Part 1 of Lisette Victor interview with Geronimo Aguila, member of the Foreign Committee of the United Popular Action Front of El Salvador; place and time not given--recorded]

[Text] [Aguila] El Salvador is experiencing a prerevolutionary situation. The conditions of organization of the masses lead them directly to a confrontation with the dominant sectors--the oligarchy and the imperialists--which have established a warlike repressive apparatus. It is an irreversible process that in a short time will surprise the world.

It is possible that imperialism will intervene openly, whereupon we will initiate a lengthy war of resistance, one which will lead to the final liberation of the country; or it could be that the masses will give an emphatic response to the enemy with international pressure that will keep the enemy from daring to act as he has done in other places, and we would then have a new revolution in Central America.

[Question] Within the present political situation, how are the people responding to the pressure of the fascist Salvadoran junta?

[Answer] Let us speak of the organized people. Great sectors of the country are now responding militantly to repression in an organized manner. The people have their groups. They are organized in neighborhoods in cities, in community committees. The organizations have achieved such a broad effort that they are present throughout the country, and wherever the enemy practices repression the people no longer run from the National Guard, traditionally the most brutal element. In 1932 the National Guardsman was already the agent of death. Now, 50 years later, the guard has had 50 more years of experience in death and crime, but the people are now willing to fight them to the death to end this longstanding evil once and for all.

At this time we have in reality what in other areas is just a slogan--the people are born of a rifle. Now everyone tends to fight more and the people are organizing for this. The people are giving an historical answer. This is the result of a process of strangulation of freedoms, in which life and security [words indistinct].

The people have been practically cornered in a situation so harsh that the only thing to do was respond in this manner.

[Question] How does the working class fit into the Salvadoran people's struggle for definitive liberation?

[Answer] In El Salvador, beginning in 1977, the working class passed from labor struggle to political struggle. The United Popular Action Front [FAPU] and its working sector, the proletarian vanguard, in particular, embarked on a political effort among the sectors involved in production, particularly the energy, port and coffee sectors, which are the basic sectors of the national economy. In many places the labor unions were reorganized along political lines. Consequently the organized movement, in union with the other political groups in the country, that is, revolutionary groups, represent a great majority of the working class in struggle, and when they are successful the theory that the working class should be in the vanguard of the revolution and be the driving force in the country will have been put into practice. The commitment to the struggle starts with the working class. The workers have their groups. The workers have their militias and the workers are giving a combative answer.

In recent months they have faced a lengthy, painful situation, but social cost [words indistinct] demand more. They have clearly demonstrated their competence, their discipline and their ability to lead the revolution.

CSO: 3010

DECREE NUMBER 114 REVIEWED BY LEGAL SECTOR

Law Center Analysis

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 18 Feb 80 pp 3, 54, 56

[Text] The Center for Legal Studies has analyzed Decree No. 114 of the JRG [Revolutionary Government Junta] amending the Constitution.

The analysis states that Decree No. 114 "is illegal and invalid and its repeal is a patriotic responsibility."

The text of the analysis is as follows.

The Facts

Decree No. 1. On 15 October 1979 the JRG issued Decree No. 1 by which it assumed the legislative and executive powers in order to exercise them according to the prerogatives and functions established in the existing Constitution. It decided to use the assumed legislative function by issuing decrees that would have the force of law.

Decree No. 7. On 29 October 1979 the JRG issued Decree No. 7 which interpreted Decree No. 1, recognizing the effectiveness of the 1962 Constitution but suspending the application of the laws that regulate the organization of the legislative and executive branches and those referring to the terms of office and election of the members of the municipal councils.

Recognition

In this decree--specifically in a whereas--the JRG recognized that when it assumed the executive and legislative powers in order to exercise them according to the prerogatives and functions established in the 1962 Constitution, it was exercising the people's inherent right of rebellion through the armed forces. The armed forces did nothing more than enforce the law, maintain public order and guarantee the constitutional rights of the sovereign people as set forth in Article 112 of the Constitution. It invoked a state of emergency

which legalized the complete development of the right of rebellion to protect a higher legal good--that is, the reestablishment of the violated constitutional order.

Expansion

Decree No. 114. On 8 February 1980 the JRG issued Decree No. 114 which expanded Decree No. 1, recognizing the effectiveness of the present Constitution as long as it is compatible with the nature of the present regime and does not oppose the principles and objectives of the Armed Forces Proclamation of 15 October 1979 and its "line of government," especially the measures to attain these objectives.

Proclamation

To support Decree No. 114, two paragraphs of the Armed Forces Proclamation dated 15 October 1979 are invoked: the objective to "create the necessary conditions so that all Salvadorans in our country can have peace and live in human dignity"; and "establish the bases for profound transformation of the economic, social and political structures of the country." It also declared that when it assumed the "power of the state," the JRG recognized the effectiveness of the 1962 Constitution in Decree No. 1, introducing the modifications necessary for organization of the government. It maintained that Decree No. 1 and its interpretation do not correspond to the spirit of the proclamation or the commitment of the armed forces to stimulate transformation of the economic, social and political structures.

The Law

a) Discrepancies between Decree No. 114, the Constitution and Decrees No. 1 and No. 7.

i) It is pertinent to point out, first, that the statement that Decree No. 1 introduced modifications in the 1962 Constitution is not true. The interpretation of this decree--which should be understood as incorporated to the same--is very clear that all the laws in the 1962 Constitution are in effect; only the application of the laws that regulate the organization of the executive and legislative branches and those referring to the terms of office and election of the members of the municipal councils has been suspended because of a state of emergency.

Ambiguity

ii) Article 1 of Decree No. 114 subjects all the constitutional provisions to compatibility with the nature of the present regime and agreement with the principles and objectives of the Armed Forces

Proclamation of 15 October 1979 and its "line of government." This is an ambiguous statement that claims superiority over the Constitution; it would definitely leave the Constitution practically ineffective.

iii) In Decree No. 1 the JRG assumed the legislative and executive powers and not the constitutional power as it tries to state, with serious legal ignorance, in the second whereas of Decree No. 114. It said there that it assumed the "power of the state" but this corresponds only to the people, the depository of sovereignty.

Constitutional Law

b) Legal nature of Decree No. 114. In the hierarchy of laws, we find the Constitution at the top, the basis for the legal order of the state, followed by secondary laws. The junta has tried to give Decree No. 114 the nature of a constitutional law without the legitimacy of constitutional power. It is a secondary law and it is obvious that this would be completely invalid since it contradicts a superior law. Even its authors could not defend its validity.

Interpretation

c) The powers of the junta. The JRG, by assuming the legislative and executive powers in Decree No. 1 and its interpretation, clearly established that it did so through the exercise of the inherent right of rebellion in order to reestablish the violated constitutional order. No part of the mentioned decrees or any act before Decree No. 114 states that the JRG has appropriated constitutional functions. This action of the junta is based on the principles of the constitutional law that refers to the right of rebellion. It can be deduced from the above that Decree No. 114 exceeds the powers of the junta and goes beyond the Constitution. According to the Constitution, it can only be amended as set forth in its Article 222; the power to amend it or repeal it belongs to a constitutional assembly alone.

Illegality

The present invocation of the Armed Forces Proclamation as a formal source of law is, in our opinion, illegal. That proclamation does not in itself contain the elements of a true formal source of law: security, enforceability and, basically, the expression of the sovereign will that rests only in the people.

Validity

d) Legitimacy of the acts of the junta. It can be deduced from Decrees No. 1 and No. 7 that the main intention and objective of the

rebellion was to reestablish the reign of legality and return to the constitutional order. Consequently, all acts of the JRG to reestablish the constitutional order are valid and legitimate but all the others that contradict this objective are not legal and lack validity.

Decree No. 114 belongs to this last group and is illegal.

Line of Government

e) Security as essential condition of law. Article 1 of Decree No. 114 conditions the effectiveness of the Constitution to the principles and objectives of the Armed Forces Proclamation of 15 October 1979 and the "line of government" of the JRG. Therefore, it can be stated that all the provisions of the Constitution are subject to complete insecurity and the citizens of the republic will be impeded from exercising their rights and fulfilling their duties that the Constitution recognizes and imposes on them. Basic principles and provisions are now in question like: El Salvador is a sovereign state; the government is republican, democratic and representative; and all public power emanates from the people.

One Example

To mention only one example that could have serious consequences for the country, the provisions related to the armed forces would depend on the "line of government." These provisions establish that the armed forces is apolitical and essentially obedient and cannot decide its own affairs. What is more dangerous is that the application of Decree No. 114 could even create a parallel army of nonprofessional militias if that was the "line of government."

Following are some universal principles of the philosophy of law.

"An essential condition of a law is security."

"The function of the law is always security whether under a traditionalist regime or a revolutionary regime."

Security

"The function of security does not in any way limit the content of the law. That objective of certainty and security belongs to all legal orders, those that try to perpetuate old structures as well as more radically progressive programs, conservative orders as well as revolutionary ones. Revolutionaries try hard to insure, at whatever cost, a legal ideal that was not realized before; they want to establish this and they want to do it with certainty and security."

"There is no law without security. When a society does not insure minimal conditions for its own survival and the realization of its collective projects, there is anarchy."

Conclusion

The present analysis contains mainly legal points of view. Before concluding, we want to repeat our conviction that the country needs social transformations carried out rationally with respect for the law and the principles of democracy. Consequently, we do not agree with those who oppose this same decree with the sole intention of hindering the social changes that the country needs to end its structural crisis and satisfy the fundamental needs of the great majority of the people.

We declare that decree No. 114 is illegal and invalid and its repeal is a patriotic responsibility.

Former Justice Minister's Analysis

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 15 Feb 80 p 48

[Text] Under the present circumstances, the only legal way to amend the Constitution is to overthrow the legal institutional system through a new coup d'etat, according to Dr Luis Nelson Segovia, former minister of justice.

He stated the following:

After reading Decree No. 114 and recovering from my surprise that a secondary law was amending the Constitution, I must, as a man of law, comment on this erroneous decision which will be recorded in the annals of legal history throughout the world as an unprecedented act to bring absolute legal instability.

Right of Rebellion

At 0200 hours on 15 October 1979 the Armed Forces of El Salvador announced its /proclamation/ [in boldface] in which it deposed the government of Gen Carlos Humberto Romero through a coup d'etat. It formed the JRG with the firm objectives of guaranteeing a democratic regime to create a climate of tranquillity and establishing the bases for structural transformations. In Decree No. 1 of that same date, the JRG assumed the executive and legislative powers in order to exercise them according to the prerogatives and functions established in the existing Constitution. It used the right of rebellion to fire all the officials from the previous regime and recognized the effectiveness of the present Constitution. Later the JRG issued Decree No. 7 which applied the doctrine of constitutional law under

a state of emergency and interpreted Decree No. 1 of the JRG. It recognized the 1962 Constitution and suspended only the application of the laws that regulate the organization of the legislative and executive branches and the municipal councils. The suspension would end after elections for president and vice president of the republic and members of the legislative assembly and municipal councils.

The coup d'etat was not based on the revolutionary decree but on the full right of rebellion which supports political and constitutional continuity. The uprising was carried out against an unjust regime to restore the reign of a constitution that had been violated and ignored by the previous regime.

However, once a government arose from that right of rebellion and the effectiveness of the Constitution had been recognized, new laws must be derived from formal sources, not from the material source of the right of rebellion.

The positive law--the Constitution--cannot and should not regulate or limit the right of rebellion. Whether it is positively recognized or not, it is based on natural justice.

All this has been maintained by the JRG and is supported by many writers not only on law but on constitutional law.

Social Changes and the Constitution

Conceptual, sociological and constitutional evaluations of what is a revolution or a coup d'etat cannot be covered at this time because it would be an unnecessary digression. It is enough to mention that the social objectives in the Armed Forces Proclamation to carry out the structural changes in our society should be supported by all citizens because they benefit the majority and should have been done before. These are changes that should be made rationally; these announced measures and many others can be carried out within the legal-constitutional framework.

A certain group of politicians, now Christian Democrats, believe that it is necessary to repeal or amend the Constitution to carry out the structural changes mentioned in the Armed Forces Proclamation. Priority is given to an agrarian reform process and reforms in the financial and tax sector and in foreign trade. Possibly the Constitution has not been analyzed with due care and from the perspective of constitutional law as an instrument for social change. If the economic provisions of the 1962 Constitution are read carefully, it can be seen that the social changes announced in the proclamation and mentioned in Decree No. 114 can be easily developed under the general and specific principles of the Constitution because there is no dissociation between it and social reality.

From a study of the constitutional bill published recently in the newspapers--Decree No. 114 is its poorly done summary--it can be deduced that the great legal concern is to avoid paying indemnity for expropriations in advance. However, Article 138, clause 2, of the Constitution states that when the amount of indemnity for agrarian reform or financial reform justifies it, the indemnity will not be paid in advance but within 20 years. Besides, payment of the indemnity in cash or bonds is not a constitutional matter; the form of payment should be regulated by a secondary law. If this is the real motive of those who so easily suggest violation of the Constitution, they are completely ignoring the importance of the fundamental charter of a country. Possibly there are other motives that we do not know about that are leading to the collapse of the existing institutions under the Constitution, including the armed forces themselves.

Illegality and Right of Revolution

As I said at the beginning, the JRG owes its existence to the full right of rebellion, not the right of revolution. Consequently, it cannot assume the constitutional function. It would have been different if the JRG on 15 October 1979, making use precisely of its "revolutionary" name, had ignored the Constitution and invoked the right of revolution. This would, then, be the formal and material source of legal actions and give birth to revolutionary law.

By expanding Decree No. 1, Decree No. 114 is /repealing and amending the 1962 Constitution/ [in boldface]. This is illegal and unconstitutional because it does not follow elementary principles of legal hierarchy and stability; a secondary law cannot repeal or amend a higher law like the Constitution. This could be done again and again, however, after this pernicious precedent, not only with dogmatic principles but also the institutional ones.

The Supreme Court of Justice has a serious responsibility to rule on the unconstitutionality of this Decree No. 114. Its decision will have definite consequences either way but I hope that legality will prevail.

I reaffirm my position that it is necessary to amend the Constitution to stimulate the changes suggested. Nevertheless, as an explanation, under the present circumstances the only legal way to amend the Constitution is to end the legal institutional framework through a new coup d'etat or, perhaps, a self-coup. This will issue a new Decree No. 1 making use of the right of revolution with a definite orientation for order and change. San Salvador, 12 February 1980.

7717

CSO: 3010

EL SALVADOR

ARCHBISHOP DESCRIBES CURRENT SITUATION

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 3 Mar 80 p 3

[Text] Monsignor Romero severely censured the occupants of the cathedral in this Lenten season and again told them that with such action they are incurring the displeasure of the people.

In his homily, which was heard in San Salvador with absolute clarity over shortwave radio, the archbishop said that there had been sufficient time to settle the question of those who had been kidnapped, Messrs McEntee, Hill, etc., as the physical and mental torture of the victims and their families had already lasted a long time. He also made reference to the operations of military and paramilitary organizations and denounced such activities as "bloody repressions which had brought terror to the rural regions from which the terror-stricken inhabitants had fled, many of whom had been killed in these operations."

Later Monsignor Romero spoke of the dynamite attack which destroyed the facilities of Radio YSAX, "The Voice of Pan-America," which was, he said, according to a letter he had received from parishioners, as if the station's tongue had been cut out or the hearing of the listeners had been destroyed. He took advantage of the opportunity to say that as the result of that attack the station is being heard internationally through the cooperation of the Costa Rican broadcasting station, Radionoticias del Continente.

The archbishop told Salvadoran radio broadcasters that they "had been intimidated," while the correspondent of Radionoticias del Continente offered his services immediately and made a reality of his offer. He expressed his gratitude for the messages of solidarity which he had received when the archbishopric's radio had been destroyed; however, he said that it would be put back in operation. He recounted the incident of a political organization's having given him a donation of 5,000 colones, which he accepted and told them: "I accept this money without a commitment of any kind because the church never sells itself."

Later, continuing to interweave liturgy with the political situation, the monsignor said that operations which caused death and terror were often

conducted by the self-same popular organizations whose actions were then responded to by the Security Corps.

Speaking of changes, he predicted that this week, based on his information, the Agrarian Reform Law would be promulgated but that there should be no illusions and that the decree should be awaited with due discretion, "as it could give us the surprise of being to the benefit of capital rather than the workers."

The live transmission of the homily was clear. Radionoticias del Continente is a radiobroadcasting station which began to conduct its tests in Costa Rican territory near San Jose, when the Nicaraguan revolution had reached its climax. This radio station has never broadcast a commercial, which suggests that it is strictly a substitute station whose transmissions are broadcast against unpopular regimes in America, particularly in the Southern Cone, especially Argentina.

It was said that this radio is maintained by the Montonero organization and that it was closed by the Costa Rican government several weeks ago. However, it is known that it was given a 3-week delay to shut down its operation.

8143

CSO: 3010

STATUS OF RELATIONS WITH HONDURAS DISCUSSED

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 4 Mar 80 p 7

[Editorial: "The Border Question and the Common Market Question"]

[Text] Quite a bit of progress appears to have been made in current talks at the diplomatic level in search of a peace treaty between Honduras and El Salvador.

In fact, according to news statements from the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry, agreement has already been reached on five of the seven points established by the Organization of American States as the possible basis for the peace treaty between the two countries. According to the minister of foreign relations, the two pending points of the preliminary agreement relate to the question of borders and the "restructuring" of the Central American Common Market.

These two points are closely interrelated. It would be very difficult to talk about a common market; i.e., an agreement in which in addition to relations of trade exchanges, there has to be implementation of free movement of persons and merchandise, even though such free movement of persons is subjected to certain regulations. It seems logical that prior consideration should be given to matters relating to the free movement of merchandise, free movement without which it is imprecise to talk about free trade; and without free trade the common market ceases being a common market. What we are saying surely has not escaped the two foreign ministries. The first decision which should be made is that of normalizing free movement, the lifting of the blockade of the Pan-American Highway, to speak clearly. It is upon the lifting of this blockade that any agreement which may be signed concerning the restructuring of the Central American Common Market will depend. It is the lifting of the blockade; it is the reestablishment of free movement, which will open the way to discussion, negotiation, agreement on something concerning the restructuring of the Common Market or the adoption of the Central American economic and social plan which should be found in some organization of the Central American governments, waiting indefinitely for public discussion, for approval or rejection.

Without prior clarification of the border question, it seems unlikely that there will be progress in the consideration of the Central American Common Market.

8143

CSO: 3010

EL SALVADOR

AGRARIAN REFORM LAWS PUBLISHED

Basic Law

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 8 Mar 80 pp 21-23

[Text] Basic Agrarian Reform Law, Decree No 153

Whereas:

I. Point 3 in the emergency program, as contained in the Armed Forces Proclamation of 15 October 1979, stipulated as a guideline "to adopt measures leading to an equitable distribution of the nation's wealth, while at the same time rapidly increasing the gross domestic product," and thus the creation of a solid groundwork for the start of an agrarian reform process is being adopted as an instrument to achieve this goal, while guaranteeing the right of private property in its social function;

II. The current law creating the Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation is not responsive to the demands of the country's deprived masses, in that it establishes only poles of privileges, in contrast to the objectives of true economic, social and political development;

III. It is necessary to establish a new economic and social order in harmony with the principles of social justice and with the revolutionary ideology adopted by the newly constituted government, in order to objectively meet the demands of the Salvadoran people and thus reject the prevailing minority interests;

IV. Having established through Decree No 43 of the Revolutionary Government Junta, dated 7 December 1979 and published in the Official Gazette No 228, Volume 265, of the same date, the necessary groundwork for the promotion of a policy of changes in the system of landownership, while banning transfers and the disorderly parceling of rural real estate, it is necessary to promulgate the legal instruments to implement this policy;

Therefore, pursuant to the legislative powers vested in it by Decree No 1 of 15 October 1979, as published in the Official Gazette No 191, Volume 265, of the same date, and having heard the opinion of the Supreme Court of Justice, the Revolutionary Government Junta decrees the following Basic Agrarian Reform Law:

Section I, Fundamental Provisions

Article 1. Private property in its social function is hereby recognized and guaranteed.

Lands whose extension falls within the reserve limits established in this law and that, furthermore, meet the following requirements fulfill a social function:

- a) They must be worked directly by their owner or holder;
- b) They must guarantee a minimum level of production and productivity, in accordance with the national average for the product in question;
- c) The lands must be worked in accordance with the agricultural and livestock development plans drawn up by the state;
- d) The soil, water and other renewable natural resources must be properly managed, conserved and protected, and
- e) Labor and social security laws must be complied with.

The requirements referred to in Letters b, c and d of this article will be regulated by a special code.

Article 2. For the purposes of this law, agrarian reform will be understood to mean the transformation of the country's agrarian structure and the incorporation of its rural population into the nation's economic, social and political development, through the replacement of the system of large landed estates with a just system for the ownership, tenancy and development of the land, based on its equitable distribution, a suitable organization of credit and comprehensive assistance for rural producers, so that the land constitutes for those who work it the basis of their economic stability, the foundation of their advancing social well-being and the guarantee of their freedom and dignity.

Section II, On the Confiscation of Lands and Other Assets

Article 3. The agrarian reform applies nationwide, without distinction as to crop, location, productivity, system of ownership, soil quality

or other variable. Therefore, all real estate that by nature, agreement or designation is used for agricultural, livestock or forestry purposes is hereby confiscated, with the exceptions and limitations set forth in this law.

Article 4. The lands confiscated under this law are those owned or held on national territory by one or more natural persons, estates or associations and that exceed 100 hectares in the case of real estate with class I, II, III and IV class soils, and 150 hectares for soil classes V, VI and VII. These extensions constitute the reserve right of landowners or landholders.

The provisions of the first paragraph of this article notwithstanding, lands that do not exceed the limits therein established can be expropriated if their owners or holders do not fulfill the requirements set forth in Article 1 of this law or cause the deterioration of the renewable natural resources and the assets that are necessary and indispensable for operation as a business.

Soils that are utilized strictly for forestry purposes are confiscated in their entirety and will be subject to the pertinent provisions of the Forestry Law.

Article 5. Natural persons will be able to join agricultural and livestock associations if the lands of these associations do not, when considered as a whole or when added to those of the member, exceed the limits set forth in this law.

It is legally presumed that each member of the association has an extension of land proportional to his participation in it.

If as a natural person and as a member he owns lands in excess of the reserve right, that which belongs to him as a natural person will be subject to confiscation first.

Article 6. The localization of the reserve right and the equivalencies in accordance with soil class will be determined by the ISTA [Salvadoran Institute of Agrarian Transformation].

The localization of this right must be undertaken on the basis of equitable criteria that will enable the owner or holder to efficiently work his land.

Article 7. The state will be able to increase the reserve right of landowners or landholders by 20 percent if when the property is acquired, it is established that they have maintained or increased its productivity or introduced considerable improvements in it after this law has taken effect.

In any case, in order to enjoy this benefit they must prove that they have complied with labor and social security laws.

Article 8. All owners or holders will be able to continue working their properties while they have not been occupied or acquired by the state.

Section III, On the Acquisition of Lands and Other Goods

Article 9. The state will acquire land and other goods through any method set forth in the law, especially purchases and expropriations.

Article 10. Once the state has made the decision to acquire a real property, the ISTA will so notify the owner or holder personally and at his residence, if this be known. If it is not, a single notification will be given in the Official Gazette and two widely circulated national newspapers.

The owner or holder must express in writing at ISTA offices his consent to sell within 8 working days after notification or publication in the Official Gazette, as the case may be; in the latter case, there must be an indication of where the notices are to be served.

The ISTA will notify the owner or holder in writing and at the designated place as to the day and hour that he must appear to execute the appropriate public document.

If the owner or holder should not appear on the designated day and hour, action will be taken to expropriate the property.

Article 11. The expropriation will proceed by operation of law. In the event of an expropriation, the ISTA will issue a notarial certificate and will be able to take possession of the property even before its conveyance is legalized.

Once the ISTA has taken possession of the confiscated property, the owner, holder or his legal representative must appear before the ISTA to sign the writ of attachment and possession. The certification of this writ, along with a description of the property, both issued by the minister of agriculture and livestock, will serve as the title deed and will be registered in the name of said ministry in the appropriate real estate registry. It must be herein registered even if the description does not coincide with prior information, as long as the same property and the same owner are involved.

The owner, holder or his legal representative must sign the writ referred to in the previous paragraph at the main office of the ISTA no later than 8 working days after the last publication of the list of affected owners in two widely circulated national newspapers.

The same ISTA writ of attachment and possession will list the registration number and the respective book in which the information verifying the owner of the expropriated property is contained. It will also indicate the owner's right to subsequent compensation.

If the owner, holder or legal representative should not appear to sign the writ within the period indicated in the third paragraph of this article, an explanation of this circumstance will be placed at the bottom of the writ, and ownership will be considered transferred. The writ and explanation referred to in this article will be authorized by a representative of the ISTA.

If the owners, holders or their legal representatives should not appear to receive the compensation, the ISTA will deposit the respective amount in the Agricultural and Livestock Development Bank to the order of the affected owners, and payment will be considered made.

Article 12. If the expropriated property is legally distrained or has mortgage liens or if there are loans encumbering its production, the amount of the compensation will be deposited in any banking institution in the country or to the order of the agrarian judge so that he can subsequently pay the creditors in accordance with their prior claims, while turning over the residuary to the owner of the expropriated property.

In the event that the amount deposited is insufficient to pay off the recognized liabilities, the judge will order the pro rata payments of the respective credits.

Section IV, On Appraisals and Method of Payment

Article 13. The price or compensation for the lands and other goods that are acquired will be paid partly in cash and partly in agrarian reform bonds. The amount will be determined on the basis of the owned-declared value for the road tax years of 1976 and 1977. If the owner did not declare the value of his property for the aforementioned tax years, he will state his estimate of the value of the confiscated assets at the time he expresses his consent to sell.

The ISTA will determine at the next session of the Board of Directors whether it agrees or disagrees with the proposed price. In the event

that it disagrees, the ISTA will make a counteroffer, concerning which the owner must express his opinion no later than the third working day after he is given notice. Should he reject the counteroffer, the ISTA will proceed with the expropriation and compensate him on the basis of the previously determined price.

Should the owner not appear, the ISTA will determine the amount of the compensation by taking into account the average value of the real properties of the same class in the zone.

Article 14. The lands and other assets acquired pursuant to this law will be paid for as follows:

1. In the cases of purchases of up to 500 hectares: 25 percent in cash and 75 percent in agrarian reform bonds;
2. In the event that the property exceeds 500 hectares or was expropriated: 100 percent in agrarian reform bonds;
3. In the cases of the assets mentioned in the second paragraph of Article 4 of this law: 25 percent in cash and the rest in agrarian reform bonds. These bonds will have special installment and interest terms.

Cash will be paid for the value of the livestock and improvements introduced in the case of Article 7 for properties of fewer than 500 hectares.

The state will absorb under the same terms under which they were contracted the existing liabilities relating to proven investment in the agricultural or livestock enterprise.

Article 15. There will be three kinds of agrarian reform bonds: Series A, Series B and Series C. They will be regulated by a special law that will stipulate redemption periods, interest rates, benefits and other terms.

Article 16. The percentage of payment made in agrarian reform bonds will be as follows:

- a) In the case of lands efficiently cultivated by their owner, Series A bonds;
- b) In the case of lands that are leased or farmed by tenant farmers or in the case of other indirect methods of exploitation, Series B bonds;

- c) In the case of uncultivated or poorly cultivated land, Series C bonds;
- d) In the case of lands leased without a lease contract registered with the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry, Series C bonds;
- e) In the cases dealt with in Article 14, Number 3 of this law, the bonds will be Series A and will have a special redemption term of 5 years, and
- f) In the cases provided for in the second paragraph of Article 4 of this law, the compensation will be paid in Series C bonds, with the value of the damage caused deducted in advance, any appropriate criminal liability notwithstanding.

Section V, On Provisional Administration

Article 17. When the ISTA takes ownership of the real properties and other confiscated assets, it will begin administering them on a provisional basis in order to guarantee:

- a) The objectives of the agrarian reform;
- b) The maintenance of production and productivity, and
- c) The care and upkeep of the acquired assets.

In the event that crops are awaiting harvest or if the cultivation of seasonal crops has begun, the provisional administration will guarantee that said crops are harvested for the owner or leaseholder, as long as the latter continue with the production process. The ISTA provisional administration will continue until the acquired lands are assigned to peasant farmers.

Section VI, On the Distribution of Lands and Other Assets

Article 18. The lands and other assets acquired by the state will be distributed to agricultural and livestock cooperative associations, peasant farmer community associations and other farm worker organizations registered with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.

The lands and other assets so acquired will be administered under the system of co-management by the state and said organizations.

Distributions can be made in special cases to peasant farmer families or associated groups.

The co-management system referred to in this article will continue until the new beneficiaries are duly trained. Nonetheless, there will

always be wideranging cooperation between the state and the beneficiaries in order to accomplish the objectives of national planning.

Article 19. Lands will be distributed in accordance with a dynamic concept of land capability that includes: the extent of the property and the quality of the soils in relation to the productivity and income of the beneficiaries.

Article 20. The income from the utilization of the distributed assets will be earmarked for the following order of priorities:

- a) The payment of production costs;
- b) Meeting the basic needs of the family groups that make up the farm enterprises;
- c) The payments referred to in Article 30 of this law.

Surplus income will be subject to a special arrangement in order to guarantee that it is distributed fairly in the zone in question, while looking after the interests of the nation and in an attempt to:

- a) Establish a reasonable level of savings for the beneficiaries of the zone in question;
- b) Develop community programs of social benefit, and
- c) Develop other kinds of productive projects.

Article 21. The organizations referred to in Article 18 of this law must consist exclusively of landless peasant farmers, be they wage earners, tenants, subtenants, sharecroppers or farm hands. Peasant farmers who own insufficient amounts of land to meet their basic needs can also be members of such organizations.

In any case, landless peasant farmers who have worked for at least 1 year on the expropriated lands as tenants, farm hands, sharecroppers or other forms of dependency, will have priority as beneficiaries in these organizations.

The general standards for distribution, as well as the criteria and priorities in selecting beneficiaries, will be regulated by a special law.

Article 22. Other laws will govern the standards for coordination, training, promotion, loans, technical aid and other activities leading to comprehensive development under the agrarian reform process, as well as the status of small farmsteads in order to provide them with additional land for the purpose of boosting productivity and forming associated production arrangements.

Section VII, General Provisions

Article 23. National agrarian policy will be determined by the Executive Branch in the Council of Ministers.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock will be in charge of developing this policy, in coordination with the other institutions of the public farm sector, in order to spur on the agrarian reform process.

The ISTA will execute this process in accordance with the law that established it, to the degree that it does not contradict the present law.

Article 24. In order to advise the minister of agriculture and livestock in the development of agrarian reform policy, a council is hereby created that will consist of:

- a) The ministers of planning and coordination of economic and social development, labor and social security, defense and public security, finance and economy;
- b) A representative of each of the following institutions: the Central Reserve Bank of El Salvador and the Agricultural and Livestock Development Bank;
- c) Four members representing the organizations referred to in this law.

Article 25. A special code will establish no later than 90 days after this law takes effect, the zoning of the country for applying the agrarian reform.

Notwithstanding, immediate action will be taken to acquire rural properties, the extension of which will be indicated in a special decree, and they will be confiscated as stipulated in Article 11.

Article 26. Transfers of properties inside current Irrigation and Drainage Districts are subject to the respective laws establishing them.

Article 27. The owners of properties not exceeding the reserve limits stipulated in this law, whether taken together or in separate units, will be able to sell and encumber them freely with no restrictions other than those established by other laws and provided that they make a sworn declaration before the attesting notary when executing the

document that all of their rural properties do not exceed the reserve limits. The notary will record this circumstance in the legal instrument.

Owners can sell properties exceeding said limits if the transfer is made to the agricultural and livestock associations indicated in Article 18, to the state or to decentralized bodies, for the development of housing, industrial or services programs, and with prior authorization from the ISTA. Notwithstanding, they can mortgage them partially or entirely in order to obtain supervised loans for production and agroindustrial development or to make improvements.

A sale made in violation of this provision will be null and void, and the state can confiscate all of the rural properties of such violators.

Article 28. It is the obligation of current owners or holders of properties exceeding the limits set forth in Article 4 of this law to maintain the existing livestock herd, in order to preserve production units.

Article 29. The properties and other assets belonging to duly registered agricultural and livestock cooperative associations or peasant farmer community associations will not be confiscated.

Article 30. The beneficiaries assigned lands and other assets will pay the ISTA an amount of money that will enable it to liquidate the agrarian debt. The ISTA cannot apply these funds to other purposes.

Article 31. Until the Agrarian Jurisdiction is established, the courts of first instance that try civil cases will hear all matters relating to the agrarian reform process.

Article 32. The records, formalities and documents needed to enforce this law are exempt from all categories of taxes.

Article 33. The agrarian reform process is hereby declared a cause of public benefit and social interest.

Article 34. The provisions of this law are hereby declared public.

Article 35. Executive Decree No 24, of 20 March 1975, published in the Official Gazette No 56, Volume 246, of 21 March 1975, is revoked.

Decree Law No 43, of 7 December 1979, published in the Official Gazette No 228, Volume 265, of the same date, is hereby revoked.

All of the provisions of the law creating the ISTA that run counter to the present law are hereby revoked, as well as all other laws, rulings or decrees that contradict it.

Article 36. The reserve right recognized by this law will be exercised by the owner or holder of confiscated assets for 1 year after the ISTA takes possession of them.

Article 37. The present law will take effect 8 days after it is published in the Official Gazette.

Issued in the Presidential Palace, San Salvador, 5 March 1980.

[Signed] Col Adolfo Arnaldo Majano Ramos, Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, Dr Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, Dr Jose Ramon Avalos Navarrete, agronomist Octavio Orellana Solis (minister of agriculture and livestock)

Position on Expropriations

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 8 Mar 80 p 23

[Text] Decree to Take Possession of and Attach Lands Prior to the Effective Date of the Basic Agrarian Reform Law

Decree No 154

Whereas:

I. It is the objective of the Revolutionary Government Junta "to adopt measures leading to the equitable distribution of the nation's wealth," to which end it must create a solid groundwork for the start of the agrarian reform process;

II. It has decreed on this same date the "Basic Agrarian Reform Law," which establishes the general provisions that will govern the reform process;

III. In order to guarantee the objectives of the aforementioned law, it is necessary to issue precautionary measures to take possession of the properties included in the first stage, so that the normal operations of farms can be continued and so that they can be acquired and awarded to beneficiaries in an orderly fashion;

Therefore, pursuant to the legislative powers vested in it by Decree No 1, of 15 October 1979, as published in the Official Gazette No 191, Volume 265, of the same date, the Revolutionary Government Junta decrees:

Article 1. In order to implement the first stage of the agrarian reform, which will include the expropriation, by operation of the law, of rural properties in El Salvador that exceed 500 hectares, whether as a single unit or as the aggregate of several units, and that are owned or held by one or more natural persons, estates or associations, the Salvadoran Agrarian Transformation Institute is hereby empowered to immediately proceed to attach and take possession of the properties in question through representatives from the institute and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock.

Said representatives will record everything that occurred during the act of taking possession, in a document that they must draw up for this purpose.

Excluded from this provision are properties owned by agricultural and livestock cooperative associations, peasant farmer community associations or other forms of peasant farmer organizations devoted to agricultural and livestock activities.

Article 2. In attaching and taking possession of the properties in question, the representatives will have the cooperation of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock and the assistance of the police power that the Ministry of Defense and Public Security will provide.

Once the Basic Agrarian Reform Law takes effect, the expropriation procedure therein established will apply, with the writ of attachment and expropriation drawn up as stipulated in Article 1 of this decree serving as the basis for the procedure.

Article 3. The attachments and expropriations undertaken pursuant to this decree will be in effect until the Basic Agrarian Reform Law is in force.

Article 4. The present decree will take effect on the day that it is published in the Official Gazette.

Issued in the Presidential Palace, San Salvador, 5 March 1980

[Signed] Col Adolfo Arnaldo Majano Ramos, Col Jaime Abdul Cutierrez, Dr Jose Antonio Morales Ehrlich, Dr Jose Ramon Avalos Navarrete, agronomist Octavio Orellana Solis (minister of agriculture and livestock)

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 13 Mar 80 p 37

[Interview with the minister of agriculture and livestock, agronomist Octavio Orellana Solis, and agronomist Jorge Alberto Villacorta, undersecretary, on the television program "The People Want to Know"; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Mr Undersecretary, Is there any country in which an agrarian reform has been successfully carried out?

Villacorta: An agrarian reform process must be suited to the needs and characteristics of each country, and the success of an agrarian reform is gaged by the benefits that it produces for the majority of the population. Economically, El Salvador is an agricultural country, and therefore our agrarian reform will be successful to the extent that the living standards of the Salvadoran family, of the peasant farmers, are raised, and not just economically speaking, but in terms of health care, housing, education, etc as well. Now then, there are other reforms, but I emphasize that each agrarian reform corresponds to a different economic, social and political model. The reforms in Taiwan, the reforms in Japan, etc are different successes.

Our Agrarian Reform Preserves the Production Unit in a Collective Fashion, and It Is Going to Be Exactly Suited to Our Own Country's Characteristics

[Question] Tell me, what measures have been taken to guarantee an orderly and peaceful change of property ownership?

Villacorta: Yes, of course. This is something that is definitely worrying people. There are two stages involved. First, when the decree is issued, and properties larger than 500 hectares are immediately occupied, with the support of the Armed Forces, in the sense that they accompany the Agriculture and Livestock Ministry technicians to the properties, which immediately begin to be administered under a system of co-management between the state (through the ISTA) and a minimum of peasant farmer organization. We thus assure ourselves right away that each and every one of the farm labors will continue to be performed.

The second stage begins with business management and the incorporation of more peasant farmer associations, depending on the size of the property. The transfers are being made by these three sectors: the Armed Forces, the technicians and the peasant farmers residing there, who are at this moment enthusiastically taking part in all of the large property distributions that are now going on.

We Have Brought the Armed Forces into This. The Armed Forces Have Been Willing to Join in and Have Thus Participated from the Very Beginning

[Question] Mr Minister, Many peasant farmers are asking themselves these questions: Do I have to pay for this property? Are they going to give it to me for free? How am I going to afford it? How am I going to afford machinery and equipment? How am I going to sell the harvests? How am I going to get seeds, fertilizer, etc?

Orellana: Salvadoran peasant farmers are going to be the new owners of the land. They are noble and do not go around begging for anything. They do not like to be given anything for free. I think that it would be an insult to a peasant farmer to give him land. They do not like to be treated as beggars. Salvadoran peasant farmers want to pay for the land with their own efforts, justly and calmly. I think that Salvadoran peasant farmers are honest men and are going to pay for their land.

Under the acquisition process they are going to set up cooperatives on eminently democratic foundations. The purchases of machinery and equipment are so structured that as the technicians who will work on a large farm join in, they will contribute their broad know-how so that the farm production unit can put out enough to meet our needs, food for our people, and eventually also to export.

Technical aid, seeds, manure, fertilizer, all of this will be available to peasant farmers.

Our Academics, Zootechnicians, Veterinarians, Business Administrators, Economists, Must Join in the Process Along with the Peasant Farmers, in Implementing the Agrarian Reform

[Question] Mr Undersecretary, now that the rains are drawing near, what steps are being taken so that farmers can immediately begin growing enough corn and beans for domestic consumption?

Villacorta: Basic grains have always been grown in El Salvador by peasant farmers on small farms, under sharecropping arrangements and various other precarious methods of production. Small landowners grow our food on small properties, and they are not affected at the moment. On the contrary, they are the beneficiaries of a technical assistance and credit program through the Agricultural and Livestock Development Bank. You have seen how the ministry has been working to set fertilizer prices that will favor growers with fewer than 10 hectares, fundamentally basic grain growers. We already have a program for the development and promotion of basic grain production. At present the IRA [Supply Regulation Institute] has enough stocks to cope with any sort of problem that might arise because of the rains, etc.

[Question] How we will prevent the land from returning to the hands of a few people over the years?

Orellana: The fact is that this Basic Agrarian Reform Law that the government of the republic has just announced involved in-depth study by many people. Even the members of the Armed Forces contributed their ideas. There was nothing that was not covered. A cooperative organization is structured as a juridical person, and if a member of the corporation (or a cooperator, as he is called technically in the cooperative system) dies, another person is brought in as a member of the cooperative, which continues to exist until the world ends.

Thus, the corporation does not disappear; in other words, the inheritance law does not apply. A juridical person has a permanent existence. In contrast, if the lands were turned over to individuals, then when they died, the four heirs show up and say: well, I want my 4½ acres, and then another one comes and says: I want this little piece, but the first one says: I want this part, and that rocky ground over there is yours. So you have this conflict. When a deceased's brother shows up and says to his other brother, with a sharpened blade: No, old boy, I want this piece. And then you have a fight.

There Are Not Going to Be Any More Fights Over Land in Peasant Farmer Families; God Comes First in Our Country

[Question] I would like to emphasize two issues here. The first has to do with the cooperatives. Do we in this country have the technical manpower to organize, maintain and run the cooperatives that are going to be set up? Secondly, I want to review the issue of how the lands are going to be paid for.

Villacorta: There are cooperatives, peasant farmer community associations and other forms of organization, associated groups, pre-cooperative groups, etc in our country.

Through the Agriculture Ministry, the Salvadoran Cooperative Promotion Institute (INSAFOCOOP), the Interior Ministry, the ISTA team and the CENTA team, the state has enough promoters to set up these models with peasant farmers.

At the moment, fewer than 250 owners are affected; in other words, less than 1/10 of 1 percent of our inhabitants are being affected at the moment, the fewer than 250 of our 5 million inhabitants who own more than 525,000 acres.

I think that it is an unquestionably positive development when fewer than 250 people are affected to benefit 60 percent of the population that have been underprivileged for centuries, and the rest of our citizens can rest easy. Small- and medium-scale producers, those with fewer than 100 and 150 hectares, are never, never going to be affected.

The peasant farmers who have led underprivileged lives are now going to be incorporated once and for all into the production process. The agrarian reform makes no distinction as to political organizations, religious beliefs, etc. It is aimed at the entire peasant farmer sector. What we want is for them to participate, to join in and to go around and visit the estates that are being talked about on the radio and in the papers, the estates that the state has taken over. We are asking the peasant farmers to go and take part. The tenants and sharecroppers that live there have priority. The farm workers also have priority, and the agrarian reform is aimed directly at them.

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CSO: 3010

ANEP HEAD CALLS FOR NATIONAL UNITY

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 3 Mar 80 pp 18, 19

[Talk by the president of the National Association of Private Enterprise (ANEP), engineer Jose Eduardo Palomo Castillo, to the Salvadoran people, on television, Friday evening, 29 February 1980]

[Text] Salvadorans: Before the eyes of 5 million citizens our country is crumbling. Thousands of businessmen are financially ruined, and hundreds of thousands of workers are starting to suffer the devastating effects of unemployment and hunger. We are undergoing the most dramatic and difficult time of our history.

For this reason I am here, friends, to ask you for a few moments of thought and to appeal to you to save our homeland from disorder. Thus you have a picture painted with complete realism and truthfulness of the highly-charged situation in our country. I am a father and head of a family with seven children. I was born in Izalco. I am a professional man, a business manager, another citizen deeply concerned about what is happening in our homeland, and fearful that one day my conscience may speak to me and ask me or demand of me what I did in 1980 when foreign forces were trying to destroy our country. I am not one of those who are today called oligarchs, known yesterday as slave traders and only God knows what they will be called tomorrow, those whose specialty is to divide and deceive the people to achieve their Machiavellian goals of enslavement.

I represent the National Association of Private Enterprise (ANEP). In sum we are a large part of the national productive sector. We make up, just as you do, that great sector called free enterprise, which includes the farmer who owns a couple of oxen, who at sunrise gets up to secure the yoke and to plow the land as much as the small, medium or large business owner. These are the realities in a free-enterprise system in which the individual is responsible for deciding what to produce, how to produce and for whom to produce for the good of the country.

In ANEP there is also represented the man who one day through sheer initiative and by taking the necessary risks decided to establish a business that

may be a factory, a store or a warehouse. In ANEP trade, manufacturing, finance, services, agriculture and cattle are represented. We contain 37 associations composed of about 15,000 businesses (which figure I present to you only and solely to affirm the responsibility we have toward the people, to whom we belong and owe our duty.

We were elected 4 months ago, and when we accepted this responsibility the first thing that we did was to examine ourselves, finding that we have made mistakes, since we are only human. That there has been and that there is abuse of economic power we also know, and as with corruption, wherever it may exist, we also condemn it and fight against it.

With particular harshness, the productive sector is being criticized for having been indifferent in the face of various problems that may have sprung up in the national task. The truth is that the Salvadoran productive sector, in an environment of great restrictions such as ours, has engaged in a stubborn fight to fulfill its original objective: to produce goods and services that satisfy the people's needs and the export of which promotes our development. The productive sector has created new job sources for our increasingly numerous population, leaving the solution of political and social problems to other sectors. Now the productive sector will have to take on another role. Today, in this first televised talk, we are breaking that silence, and we wish that in the following talks you will see that there are really changes in ANEP. Not only are there changes of persons but also of attitude.

Our error in staying on the sidelines of politics jeopardizes us and compels us to take a definite stand. In correcting the mistakes made we are inviting all those who are a part of free initiative to see and act daily in policy operations. First of all we must humanize business by valuing people more than possession.

Afterward, through a logical reaction, we will have achieved without realizing it great support from those persons who with us make up businesses.

I know perfectly that what I have said and what remains to be said is going to be the subject of criticism from the pulpit, the soapbox of a political party, or the classroom.

What concerns me, and I tell you this sincerely, is to succeed in getting at least some of you to react affirmatively and accept fighting with us so that our country does not sink in this whirlwind of violence.

We also have to fight, all of us together, to avoid losing the economic war, which is what the enemy is opening up when it destroys job sources, when through fear it prevents work from being done in the countryside and through lack of safety the entire entrepreneurial spirit that we have had is lost and through which we were even being called the Japan or Israel of Central America. We cannot allow the unfitness of a few who have spread uncertainty,

animosity and hatred to bring us to such a state that when there is no longer work to perform, to get a little to eat for ourselves we will arrive at what I believe will no longer be a civil war but a war of hunger.

What are we proposing?

First of all by letting me into your homes through television we have already achieved a part of our goal, and secondly we ask you this evening --you madam, you sir, and all of you young people--to remember that which says "when there is not even sorrow left on earth, there will be a cloud, which is the love to begin." Thus we hope to go on, all of us, wearing down little by little that hatred that has been taught to us, that deep hatred that can be destroyed only by love: love for our homeland, love for our fellow man, love for the family, love for our national anthem, love for work, love for our flag, love for God, love for this fertile and blessed land that opens its arms even to shelter its bad children, forgiving them.

We ask those who are listening to us not to join those who have accepted voluntary exile in Miami, Guatemala, Mexico, etc. (rightly or wrongly). On the other hand, those who are here and comfortably isolating themselves, passively waiting for what may happen, are just as guilty or more guilty than those abroad, since the passive ones are eating from the little we have left without cooperating with us in the work being done. Thus we invite them and the others to diligently participate in the search for intelligent and peaceful solutions toward achieving a more just and worthy society.

To all of those who are trying to continue along with the idea that there is no reason for change here, I say that their stand is harmful and that they understand once and for all that we cannot live under a system that does not guarantee improvements for the vast majority.

We make this invitation to the professional, the manufacturer, the employee, the banker, the farmer, the merchant, the taxi driver, the teacher, the day laborer, the student, the secretary, the nurse, the accountant, the mechanic, in short to all those who are part of the productive sector, to form a big social alliance, a large center that will make it possible to reconcile leftists and rightists. We must bear in mind that the problem here "is not that a few have a lot, but that many have little."

What is ANEP doing? We have established a series of committees to study the country's social and economic problems to be able to offer options for solving these problems after priorities have been established. We have also set up an independent work team whose only aim will be to study and formulate a "program for national economic recovery" that will revive the economy and produce greater investment, more job sources and a better standard of living, while taking into account education, housing, health and a social security program that fully guarantees human advancement.

These, ladies and gentlemen, and additional projects are what we are preparing to strengthen, develop and improve living and working conditions for all the Salvadoran people.

Moreover, ANEP wants to publicly define its stand. We cannot accept the communist ideology that the leftwing groups are proposing to place in power a Marxist-Leninist government. ANEP, ladies and gentlemen, will fight with all of its might to prevent our country from falling into the clutches of international communism.

In this battle that we are waging, we openly criticize the indifferent and absent members of our sector, those who still have not accepted the necessity of social changes to improve the national welfare, just as we criticize the extreme left for being violent, subversive and destructive, and we also reject the extreme right for being reactionary, and stubborn in maintaining a status quo that cannot and must not last.

We also take this opportunity to ask, to insist, that the politicians present and declare their ideological stand, if they are procommunist, if they want to govern with the left-wing minority or with the large Salvadoran national center to which we all belong. These politicians have forgotten that the people will need to express themselves through free elections regarding the political path they want to take. This decision cannot be the responsibility of a minority group of politicians who form an oligarchy. This decision belongs to the people.

Although ANEP is not a political organization it would be in a position to support a government platform that proposed achieving the following aims:

1. Attain political, economic and social stability within a program of democratization;
2. Fulfill the proposals of the armed forces declaration of 15 October 1979 within the guidelines of the political constitution effective since 1962;
3. Call for general elections within a reasonable period of time;
4. Develop profound structural changes in an atmosphere of peace and tranquillity, causing the least possible damage to production and to the social welfare of the majority. By penetrating structural changes let us understand decentralization of the economic power of monopoly groups within a framework of social justice and better distribution of wealth. To achieve this it is not necessary to deviate from the constitution or the laws and to infringe on property rights. That is to say, this program of changes must be regulated and rational and not careless and following feelings of revenge, vindictiveness and hostility. Moreover, these changes must be duly reasoned and technically justified and guided within the general concept that our country lives under a democratic government and not under a communist or socialist government;

5. Develop profound structural changes in the national education system with the goal of completely wiping out illiteracy, directing our system toward a productive democratic education that will allow maximum use of our largest and most valuable resource--our people. El Salvador must transform its population explosion into its greatest ally for development. To achieve this, it is necessary to accomplish profound changes in our educational system, directing it toward the teaching of small careers to better prepare technicians, who are needed so much, in a wide program of development in building, manufacturing and agriculture. Apprenticeship, so neglected and mishandled by previous governments, must also have a very important place.

Occupations that Salvadorans have traditionally performed with pride are disappearing, specifically because of our leaders' inability to see clearly. Apprenticeship at the worker level must be organized and encouraged, never cut back or stopped;

6. In the health field immediately carry out changes that allow better, faster, more modern and effective medical attention for all. There is already a series of studies and proposals directed toward reaching these goals. Unfortunately, bureaucracy, corruption and inefficiency have prevented achieving these aims;

7. In the housing area serious and far-reaching resolutions must be adopted to eliminate the shortage of dwellings. ANEP would support a government program that proposed every Salvadoran's having his own house. We know that this is one of the country's most serious problems and that countries richer than ours also have this problem.

Nevertheless, we would support all efforts made to offer increasingly more inexpensive houses, facilitating the process of delivering the houses and eliminating speculation on land assigned for the building of dwellings by the state;

8. The politicians and demagogues have indicated what they call a great need to improve the national finance system. Sadly for us this is a genuine irony, because our national private finance system is one of the most modern and effective in Central America. Despite this fact and in a spirit of cooperation, the financial organizations, members of ANEP, have offered to the first and second government juntas their recommendations to significantly improve this system, while admitting that nothing is perfect and that everything can be improved. ANEP would support a government program that carried forward these measures.

As can be seen from the preceding information, ANEP is not opposed to changes. On the contrary, we propose and support changes whenever and as long as they are for good and for building a better country and not for evil and destruction. Ladies and gentlemen, we do not want to pay the price that international

communism is making other countries pay. Nor do we want to go begging for gifts and loans to rebuild our economy in the capitals of the developed countries. Because I want to clarify one thing ladies and gentlemen, obtaining loans to support new agricultural and manufacturing investments in a strong and functioning economy, such as ours was, is different from obtaining loans to replace funds that have been lost because we have not sold our coffee, because we have not grown our cotton and because we have not been able to cut our sugar cane, due to seizures, fires, destruction, looting and death that our country's enemies have sought to spread throughout our tormented land. We see our pride as Salvadorans trampled on because our government has to ask for funds from abroad to cover the shortages caused by violence, fear and subversion.

Salvadorans: For all the reasons disclosed in this plan, we have clearly established that ANEP does not promote a coup nor is it reactionary, nor opportunistic, as you, our friends in the television audience, can prove by reading the various statements ANEP has made after the rebellion last 15 October. In none of these statements are there declarations opposing a serious, legal program of structural changes. On the contrary, in its public statements ANEP has said, and it maintains, that it is necessary to improve the living conditions of all Salvadorans and most particularly that of the large sectors of the people. For that reason it is absurd and shows malicious motives on the part of some organizations or individuals to try to misrepresent ANEP's position, by wishing to link it with the existence of a fictional national oligarchy, an image created by the propaganda tricks of international Communism.

ANEP has no political affiliation of any kind. ANEP, my friends, is plainly and simply the organization that holds together all of the productive sector represented by 37 associations, which include more than 15,000 persons. We can say that we are the motivating force of national development, because as businesses together with the laboring sector we are the backbone of the Salvadoran economy. And this is known perfectly well by the men who are leading communist subversion in our country and who, by their destructive actions toward free enterprise, are trying to create economic confusion to criminally propel us into a bloody and ruinous civil war.

Fellow citizens: The times demand of each and every one of us true Salvadorans to unite and act with complete resoluteness and valor to save our nation from anarchy and from a Marxist-Leninist dictatorship.

Salvadorans: Let us fight for the restoration of legality, peace and national progress, so that we Salvadorans of today will not be ashamed tomorrow of having been some of us cowards and others expatriots, and above all so that future generations will not be a herd of slaves.

Thank you very much, people of El Salvador. Good night. February 1980.

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CSO: 3010

EL SALVADOR

REBELS SEND CONDOLENCES ON SRV PRESIDENT'S DEATH

OW051003 Hanoi VNA in English 0722 GMT 5 Apr 80 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA, 5 Apr--The command of the Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Armed Forces in El Salvador has said that President Ton Duc Thang's death has deeply grieved the people and revolutionaries of this country.

In a message to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, it writes:

"The people and the People's Liberation Armed Forces of El Salvador always unite with the fraternal people and the Communist Party of Vietnam. We congratulated you on your victory in the struggle against the imperialists and the Chinese aggressors. Now in your hours of deep grief we once again express our solidarity with the people and the Communist Party of Vietnam.

"The Vietnamese people and people around the world have lost an exemplary, devoted and staunch revolutionary, a great fighter for independence, freedom, socialism and world peace.

"His noble example will be followed by the present and future generations of the Vietnamese and world revolutionaries.

"The Salvadoran people and our Farabundo Marti armed forces pay tribute to the late Vietnamese president.

"Eternal glory to Comrade Ton Duc Thang!

"Long live the Communist Party of Vietnam!

"Revolution or death!

"The armed people will certainly win!"

CSO: 3010

BANK PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED ON BANK NATIONALIZATION

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 4 Mar 80 p 29

[Interview with Dr Pedro Abelardo Delgado, president of the Central Reserve Bank, on the television program "El pueblo quiere saber"; time and place not given]

[Text] [Question] What economic activities will receive the greatest attention, and on the basis of what priorities?

[Answer] This is a predominantly agricultural nation; for us, agriculture--not just export agriculture but the basic agriculture needed to feed the people--should receive high priority. We are also going to give priority to the needs of the industrial sector, which will occupy an important position. Other sectors which traditionally have been preferred because of their liquidity and rapid recovery, will have to settle for lesser priority.

[Question] What kind of guarantee will be demanded before loans are granted?

[Answer] Here is an opportunity for me to discuss the nationalisation plan, which consists of the following:

The state will expropriate the stocks of the banking system, and all corporations that are called banks, as well as savings and loan institutions, will continue functioning under the same laws. Instead of being private, the stocks will simply be transferred to the state during the first phase. Immediately afterwards, the state will offer 29 percent of those stocks to the former owners, but at the same time it will offer 20 percent of the stocks to the employees of the different banks. It is also committed to giving them credit facilities so that they can buy these stocks. This is a figure that has been used all over Latin America.

We will make a great effort to ensure that there is no more discrimination, that everyone will have equal opportunity and access to credit.

[Question] What guarantees will deposits in savings accounts have?

[Answer] With nationalized banking, the state guarantees the ownership and availability of deposits.

There has been a campaign which, in addition to being malicious, has been harmful to the nation's economy. This campaign has resulted in the withdrawal of deposits. In this sense, deposits are more risky in private banking than in nationalized banking.

In private banks there can be a problem with the availability of deposits. The banks may not have the funds to cover their deposits, either because they have invested this money on a long-term basis, or because they have not been able to call in their loans. In either case, they may find themselves in a situation in which they have no way to give depositors their money at a given moment. This cannot happen to the state, because we are willing to guarantee the availability of deposits. The deposits made by the public will continue to belong to them. Every depositor owns his account. This has never been called into question in private banking or in public banking.

In very exceptional cases a private bank or a private savings and loan institution might declare bankruptcy, as has already happened. In such cases the depositor pays his share of the sacrifice; he cannot recover everything. In the history of this country I can only remember one, but there have been other cases in which institutions have been in a tight situation; but the Central Bank has always come to the rescue. In conclusion, with nationalized banking the deposits will be guaranteed absolutely; there is no need for worry.

I hope that when the public is convinced of this, there will be a reverse flow, especially among medium- and small-sized depositors, because the others will still not be ready to deposit their money again.

Why are we so confident? I think this confidence is based on realism. The only public commercial bank that is operating now is the Banco Hipotecario, and while deposits have shrunk in private commercial banks, those of the Banco Hipotecario have grown.

Commercial bank deposits as of 28 December 1979: 1,277,300,000 colons; deposits in the same commercial banks as of 29 February 1980: 1,184,200,000 colons, a difference amounting to a withdrawal of 93.1 million colons.

As of 28 December 1979, the Banco Hipotecario had 439 million colons, while as of 29 February 1980 it had 470 million, or 31 million more.

[Question] Right now the possibility of receiving credit from abroad has been reduced to a minimum. What are the chances that the nationalized banks will obtain new financing from abroad?

[Answer] I think that foreign banks, or the international financial community, as they say, is willing to negotiate with anyone, regardless of ideology, as long as he knows the rules of the game.

But I would like to say that the government recently obtained several loans, as did the Central Bank and Incafe. Yesterday I was informed that it just got two lines of credit with two important banks from the United States.

[Question] What will happen to the employees and officials who are now working in the institutions of the system?

[Answer] The decree that nationalized the banks states very clearly in Article 9 that the employees of those financial institutions are guaranteed their current jobs with the same remunerations, benefits and rights that they have acquired under the laws now in force. This means that there will be no layoffs. Furthermore, we are hopeful and confident that everyone will retain the same job, meeting his obligations and contributing to the functioning of the financial system as efficiently as always.

There may be improvements in the future. We know that in some banks or financial institutions the employees even have a share in the profits. We think that this benefit should be respected; depending on circumstances, it would not be unreasonable to expect that more banks will begin to provide this benefit. We are depending on and trusting in the corps of employees, technicians, administrators, operators, etc. of the banking system to continue managing the system in the best way possible.

[Question] People say the banking system will degenerate once the government bureaucracy takes over. What do you have to say about that?

[Answer] Well, I respect people's opinion, but in this case I disagree fundamentally. In the first place, the success or failure of any enterprise hinges on the men, that is the people who make up this country. In the case of the banks, as well as other cases, all employees from the managers on down will retain their jobs. In this case the only people who will be replaced are the board of directors, so I see no reason why the banking system's operations should suffer any. There is no reason for deterioration if the same people are running the banks, with the same motivations, because they will have the same pay.

[Question] It is rumored that many millions of colons are hidden under mattresses. How do you intend to win back the confidence of depositors, so that they will return that money to checking and savings accounts?

[Answer] Well, it is possible that there is a lot of money hidden under mattresses. First of all, we intend to launch a campaign to explain to the public what has been done, showing them their money is in good hands, and in that manner we hope that investors, especially small and medium investors, will once more trust in the system. Thus, savings will grow, deposits in the banks will grow, and national savings will grow as well. This will be usable savings, because the money under the mattress is not usable.

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CSO: 3010

GUATEMALA

INTA AGRARIAN REFORM LAW DISCUSSED

Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 20 Feb 80 p 5

[Article by Saul David Oliva: "Land for Those Who Need It"]

[Text] The president of the National Agrarian Transformation Institute (INTA), engineer Luis Felipe Escobar and INTA employees attended the congress of the republic to find out about a draft law that seeks to significantly change the organic law of the agrarian institution.

Escobar explained to the president of the Congress, Manuel Salvador Polanco Ramirez, that clear legal provisions are established in the alterations to the INTA law to avoid distribution of the state's land resources to persons who do not meet the requirements to be aided by the agrarian policy.

Polanco Ramirez said the session dealt with establishing new practices in discussing important matters in the legislative body so that employees or technicians involved in the program come to the congress, enabling representatives and journalists to have a better basis for judgment on the plenary sessions and for the information to guide the people about the scope of the law proposals.

Improvements in Decree 15-51, which contains the INTA law, are called for to introduce a very important change in carrying out agrarian policies. This process has to be facilitated, since agrarian policy is a changing area, as is everything concerning society.

"The agrarian program is evolutionary, and this explains the need to modernize the rules that regulate and direct it," INTA president Escobar explained. The law in force contains a chain of obstacles that do not allow more action by INTA to solve problems of social organization in the Guatemalan countryside.

They also seek to solve all conflicts concerning rural property rights since the objective is to protect rural inherited property so that the social concern that must predominate over individual interests not be diverted toward community rights, in accordance with what has been established by constitutional principles.

Escobar explained that agrarian policies are directed toward promoting community property through cooperative organization, on which point the INTA law is not very clear and which thus will be the focus of the changes contained in the decree program cited above.

Private Property Will Not Be Touched

Escobar told reporters that there is no thought of touching private property. Escobar's remarks were made while clarifying the changes INTA intends to make in Decree 15-51, the agrarian reform law.

Escobar emphasized that private agricultural property will remain the same, since the law refers to state land. Regarding the tenant system, he declared the state must maintain guardianship so that the peasant is not left landless.

He explained to the reporters that individual property carries a risk, which is that the owner of the parcel of land, attracted by profitable offers, may sell it. Being left landless again causes social problems, as has been confirmed in countless cases. For this reason they intend to introduce the idea of mixed family land inheritance without this representing the promotion of creating new large ranches.

Peasants of High Plateaus Aided by Agrarian Reform Programs

Responding to a representative's statement that the peasants of El Quiche are not being helped by present agrarian programs, Escobar explained that one of the big agricultural programs includes the district of El Quiche, a 500-square-kilometer area with space for 4,500 families.

This program takes in the municipalities of Chajul, Nebaj and part of Uspantan, where more than 200 families have been settled up to the present date. It was added that for the region of Ixcán FENACOAC (National Federation of Savings and Loan Cooperatives) and FEDECOAG (Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives) have been contracted to choose 500 families who will be moved from the tablelands to Ixcán, with large-scale relocation being started next March.

The Northern Border Crossover program contains 9,500 square km and includes the districts of Huehuetenango, Quiché, Alta Verapaz and Izabal. Up to now 13,645 property deeds have been handed over. The most benefited districts are Alta Verapaz and Quiché.

At the end of the year, Escobar added, the first part of the northern boundary will be finished, that is the highway that crosses the Northern Border Crossover and goes out toward the southern coast, passing through the northeastern districts.

600,000 Aided by Agrarian Reform

On taking over responsibility, Escobar came across 50,000 files in process, which fed the talk about the vexation of procedures to obtain land from that contained in INTA's programs.

The situation has been changing, Escobar explained, and 600,000 deeds have been turned over to individuals and agrarian communities, but still other means are lacking to make it possible to facilitate procedures.

INTA's Reasons for Changing the Agrarian Reform Law

Congressional Decree 15-51 establishes INTA as the state organization responsible for carrying out agrarian policies proposed by the government, with INTA as its technical-administrative body. Thus, although agrarian policy guidelines have to be indicated by high state authorities, INTA has run into a chain of legal obstacles contained in Decree 15-51 which do not allow more action in the institute to solve problems of social organization in the Guatemalan countryside. Therefore, without complaining that at some future time a complete change of the country's agrarian legal structure be studied, INTA did suggest a series of immediate corrections to Decree 15-51 so that power be granted to resolve pressing problems and also to achieve the legal means to make decisions that contribute toward fulfilling INTA's goals.

Among INTA's proposals are the following:

1. Adding to Decree 15-51 a series of measures that must be taken into account for the law's systematic application. INTA believes that, as with the labor code, every law that directly tends toward social betterment should contain protective provisions that serve as a guide for its interpretation and application.
2. Establishing INTA's authority so that for clearly administrative procedures it resolves all those disputes springing up related to rural property rights. The aim is that protection of agrarian inherited property not be diverted toward the area of community rights, since agrarian property is based on the constitutional principle that society's interests predominate over those of the individual.
3. Empowering the agrarian authorities to resolve problems of land holders in those cases in which, through different circumstances in fact, agrarian property has been divided. Without this step representing promotion of the small estate, which is damaging to the socioeconomic development of the family, the technical-administrative body must have freedom to resolve specific cases of this type, while always making sure that any solution help and not injure the families involved.
4. The state's agrarian policy is directed toward promoting community property through cooperative organization. However, the law is not very clear on the nature of community property, since on adjusting the distribution of family

land inheritance it defines the latter as goods distributed to an individual person. So that the law is in harmony with present policies, especially regarding the Northern Border Crossover, there has specifically been introduced INTA's power to establish collective property through cooperatives.

5. Regarding loans granted to peasants with small holdings, the amount of tax exemption is increased in the documents through which the loans are granted, above all when this is done through loan documents accepted by the law.

6. Establishing clear legal provisions to avoid having the state's land resources distributed to persons who do not meet the requirements to be helped by agrarian policies. To achieve this INTA's social service has been put into effect, entrusted with examining the claimant's need.

7. In Guatemala many groups possess lands as a community with property deeds that do not grant greater legal security or are founded on real estate which is listed in the register under the name of nonexistent companies or of individuals long deceased. Nevertheless, the peasants are there, they work the land, they have possession in fact, and they have no deed that gives them security in their rights and makes them eligible for loans. There are cases in which up to 300 intestate persons would have to be followed up to resolve title rights in favor of the possessors. To solve these problems quickly and without encumbrances, and in the face of results by peasant communities to find a solution to these obstacles, a series of rules has been introduced into Decree 15-51 that empowers INTA to record the real estate in the name of the peasant possessors through an administrative procedure that leaves intact the rights of third parties in a public manner.

8. Without taking away importance from another series of useful provisions for INTA's technical-administrative operations, the above-mentioned indications certainly demonstrate the institute's will. With these provisions one is not trying to change the present law's objective, because that is not INTA's job and it will be the main state organizations that can plan a complete change, which has to mean a thorough examination of Guatemalan realities and participation by all sectors interested in Guatemala's development and welfare. Therefore the aim is to provide INTA with legal means to facilitate its basic operations through immediate order. We believe that when the program is approved much would be achieved in our technical-administrative work.

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CSO: 3010

GUATEMALA

INTA SAYS IT HAS ENOUGH LAND FOR ITS PROGRAMS

Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 26 Feb 80 p 8

[Excerpts] The National Agrarian Transformation Institute [INTA] has enough state land to solve the national agrarian problem, INTA president, engineer Emilio Escobar said yesterday.

INTA has had operational problems, which will be resolved with improvements in the INTA law, Decree 15-51 that congress is studying.

"Among the problems faced," Escobar explained, "is that of proceedings in San Juan Sacatepequez that has been in process since 1937, and it has not been possible to authorize ownership of the land. Another case is that of the Jalapa battalion in which the owners are not known because there is no company, etc.

"Besides facilitating the processing of files," Escobar added, "we are trying to strengthen the community system of the family. By family we mean husbands and wives and children up to 18 years old. At that age young people are already able to build their own family unit.

"The improvements are ample," he said. "We have enough state lands available to confront Guatemala's agrarian problem. We have succeeded in strengthening taxes on idle land, through which we have obtained by act and right several ranches that have paid in land the tax on idle lands; this tax is cumulative and progressive.

"Collection of the tax depends on the location of the ranches, their productive capacity, communications and access roads because the ranches' facilities for merchandizing their products are considered."

Social Concern

Social concern predominates in agrarian rights. Thus there is a difference between the civil law system and the agrarian one. For this reason to establish the owner of a piece of land we study the land's productive capacity, according to the support base of productive capacity by areas, since arable, fertile and rocky land are not equally productive.

"In the national ranch census just mentioned," Escobar repeated, "we find that the land resources we have are adequate for distribution to those who need them.

"Besides INTA and FYDEP [National Agency for the Economic Promotion and Development of El Peten] have taken steps to redistribute lands in Peten. The parcels of land given out in Peten, if they have not been cultivated after 10 years, can be recovered for redistribution."

Opposition

"No objections have been presented to the Agricultural Commission of the congress on the changes in the INTA law that are being examined," said Representative Ramiro Faillace, the commission's president, who has attended all the sessions held by Escobar.

"What we have received," Faillace added, "is the approval of many experts and organizations such as the agricultural council and the AGA [General Association of Farmers]."

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CSO: 3010

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS APPEAL FOR PEACE

PAO41601 Guatemala City EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 27 Mar 80 pp 1, 10 PA

[Text] The Guatemalan Christian Democracy [DCG] speaking for the great silent majority in Guatemala, today asked the conflicting political groups to set aside their hostilities and allow the people to freely choose their destiny and develop a democratization process that will lead to the establishment of a society which respects human rights.

This statement was made by the DCG Directorate this morning in a news conference called at the DCG headquarters.

They also asked the government to do its duty and provide guarantees for the people and act against rightist paramilitary groups. It also asks the people and especially leaders of all lay and religious social sectors to join the DCG in its search for peace. However, this must be an active and aggressive search for peace which is committed to the rejection of violence as a means to an end and which concentrates its efforts on a democratization effort.

The DCG leaders also said that "in order to individually or jointly strive for peace, we must express our rejection of violence in our daily dealings. The Guatemalan people, the 'silent' majority, must publicly express their support for peace in order not to be swept into violence. We must build democracy within a program for peace," the DCG spokesman said.

They had previously said that violence had never settled differences and that during 20 years Guatemalans have been the victims of a struggle between the fascist right and the extreme left. One has tried to maintain the existing order using the state's repressive force and the other has tried to bring about changes by violent methods, without having obtained the popular support needed to obtain victory. It has only allowed the right to justify its repression and violence.

Violence is rejected by the people and they "want to settle their differences in peace." The DCG then said that "the fundamental cause

of violence is the intransigence of those who have not accepted the creation of a democratic state in a peaceful manner." Therefore, "the basic cause of the violence is the social structure which does not allow the participation of everyone and the unjust distribution of wealth."

The DCG demands that conflicting groups stop their violence and put aside any intention of embarking in a war we do not want. It said, "They must realize that the harm they have done is greater than the harm they pretend to correct. We demand that the opinions of the Guatemalan people be respected. The people want to settle their differences in peace and do not want to become involved in violence."

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

LAOTIANS FOR ELECTORAL SUPPORT--The general secretary of Guyana's opposition People's Progressive Party, Dr Cheddi Jagan, has charged that the Burhnam administration intends to use Laotian counterrevolutionaries as electoral support. Dr Jagan was referring to plans by the ruling People's National Congress to bring to Guyana members of a small tribe who are refugees from Laos and are being trained by the CIA and used against the liberation forces in that country. The PPP general secretary said the Laotians were to be settled at the Jonestown site in the northwest of the country and that reports pointed to the possibility of as many as 100,000 of them being brought to Guyana. [Begin Jagan recording] We know that imperialism in Laos, as in Angola, was using mercenaries because it could not easily intervene directly. And what we think is now being attempted in Guyana is to (set in) Guyana an internal mercenary force. [words indistinct struggle (started), the revolutionary movement develops in a more military way, we think that this can become a counterrevolutionary force inside the country. [end recording] [That was] PPP General Secretary Dr Chaddi Jagan. Speaking to journalists in Jamaica this morning during a stopover in the island, Dr Jagan further charged that the Americans living in Georgetown had been allowed to vote in that country's referendum on the constitution. In addition, he said, they had been used as canvassers for the PNC. Dr Jagan left the island this morning. [Text] [FL031823 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 3 Apr 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

CUBAN PAPER INTERVIEWS PUCH SECRETARY GENERAL THEODORE

Havana TRABAJADORES in Spanish 9 Feb 80 p 3

[Interview with Rene Theodore, secretary general of the United Party of Haitian Communists, by Hugo Vidal, of Radio Havana]

[Text] [Question] Could you talk to us about the situation that exists at present in Haiti?

[Answer] The present situation in Haiti is characterized by the maintenance of the dictatorial methods of government instituted by Duvalier. In the first place, the freedom of union activity for which the workers of Port-au-Prince and all the rest of the country are fighting continues to be trampled by the incessant intervention of the forces of repression against the Haitian union movement and against the workers' movement in general.

There's no political freedom in Haiti. The anticommunist law of 1969, which imposes the death penalty for any communist activity, including the mere fact of possessing an image of Karl Marx, and which views as an accomplice anyone who has relations with a communist, remains in force. In addition to the continuation of this obviously antidemocratic law, there is no public freedom, not even for non-communists. The government spoke of democratization of public life, of freedom. On the basis of these statements, some citizens formed political parties, particularly Christian Democratic parties; and we know what happened. Silvio Claude, chairman of one of these Christian Democratic parties, was arrested several months ago and can actually be considered as having vanished; for no one knows what has become of him. Silvio Claude has committed no other crime than that of having organized a party that openly declared itself opposed to Duvalier. Another Christian Democratic party that had arisen and that had even rented a place in Fontamara, under the leadership of Gregoire Eugene, doesn't even have the right to hold a meeting of its executive committee. All of this means that when the government, especially Jean Claude Duvalier, spoke of the right of organization and of opinion, they were simply practicing demagoguery; for in reality none of the organizations founded has escaped repression by the dictatorship.

[Question] We've had news of a repression action carried out in Port-au-Prince against a meeting on human rights. Could you tell us about it?

[Answer] The fact is that several months ago, Gerard Gourgue, the founder and president of the League of Human Rights in Haiti, organized a meeting about the political climate and human rights in Haiti.

Naturally, thousands of Haitians attended this meeting; for the fact that they would talk about the political climate and human rights in Haiti clearly indicated that the government would be criticized, which involved a demonstration against the dictatorship. All this awoke the interest of the thousands of Haitians who attended this meeting held by Gerard Gourgue.

This same dictatorial government of Jean Claude Duvalier that only talked about democracy and liberalization to sow confusion and create political diversions convincingly demonstrated that these words were only demagoguery. The Port-au-Prince political police infiltrated a large group of agents into this demonstration, and, before the speaker had time to say a word, they began to shout slogans supporting the government, broke everything there was in the place, and struck those present with clubs, including those gathered outside to listen to the meeting through loud-speakers. All the vehicles parked in the area were damaged with clubs, and many people were injured. In this way, the government repressed a demonstration that reflected the democratic sentiments of the Haitian people of today.

[Question] Then could we say there's been a new outbreak of the repression unleashed by the Tontons Macoutes?

[Answer] Indeed. It's a new outbreak of the repression, but a very well directed repression with which the government is trying to contain the people's movement that is demanding a genuine democratization of public life, that is demanding freedoms and is preparing to mobilize to defend its rights.

In the face of this, the government, which thought it could sow confusion regarding the people's real needs, with respect to democratization of the country, can only resort, in order to prevent this people's movement from developing into a major force capable of imposing a true democratization of public life, to a return to the repression and the attacks perpetrated by the Tontons Macoutes.

[Question] What, then, is the true nature of the alleged "democratization" of the Duvalier regime, and what is its basis?

[Answer] In reality, after 22 years of dictatorship in Haiti, whose economic situation is declining because of the catastrophic effect on the Haitian people of the crisis suffered by international capitalism, a

country in which the frightful poverty of the working masses causes, as everyone knows, the massive exodus of hundreds of Haitians who try to cross the Caribbean and often die in the attempt, the Haitian people are fighting for the overthrow of the dictatorship, the reestablishment of national dignity and social development.

In the Caribbean and in Central America, examples have arisen that have lent vigor to this people's movement. This has been the case with the Nicaraguan revolution, the Sandinist Front and the Nicaraguan people, which the Haitians followed with great interest, a movement that gave rise to the solidarity of the Haitian people with the Sandinist Front, considered by Haitians as their own movement. The Duvalier regime doesn't deceive itself regarding the democratic sentiment that animates the Haitian people, and it knows that this constitutes a major threat to the dictatorship. It's to counteract this movement that the dictatorship speaks of democratization, of concessions regarding liberties. But it is all talk.

[Question] What have been the most significant manifestations of the Haitian people's struggle against the Duvalier regime?

[Answer] The most significant manifestation of this struggle took place during the elections for the legislature in February 1979. The Duvalier regime had promised that these elections would be free, and, in fact, the nonofficial candidates received the majority of the votes throughout the country. Aside from the Tontons Macoutes, nobody voted for the government's candidates. However, all the districts in the country reported the Duvalierist candidates as winners in what constituted a blatant fraud. This provoked protest demonstrations in numerous districts in the country, and the regime had to threaten to use the police and even the Army to prevent these demonstrations from becoming a great opposition movement, a great movement of the people against the regime.

Moreover, this democratic sentiment has also been expressed in the development of the workers' movements and in the increasingly frequent use of the press and the communications media in general to propagate the demands for a solution to the problems and the arbitrary treatment that the people are enduring. This use of the communications media marks a significant moment in the workers' struggle, for a call to national solidarity with the struggle of the workers in private firms is being issued. This is an important moment in the struggle, and the regime knows it. Because of this, it has been trying for several months to repress the journalists advocating democracy and the press in general by means of a law that imposes numerous restrictions. However, there is a great difference between the regime's decisions and the repression unleashed against the media, on the one hand, and the journalists advocating democracy and the real sentiment of the people and their demonstrations, on the other, that no repression can contain.

[Question] Could you outline for us the struggle for unity among the progressive forces that is taking place in Haiti?

[Answer] Unity of the democratic, progressive forces in Haiti is a basic issue of the struggle against the dictatorship. We communists have always said that it is essential that all democratic groups, all Haitians opposed to the dictatorship, unite to carry on an effective struggle against the Duvalier dictatorship. But we stress that this should be done on an open basis, not excluding the communists. And we set forth as fundamental requirements freedom of union activity, the rights to demonstrate and to organize, freedom of opinion and many other elements, such as respect for national sovereignty, and numerous patriotic elements that are now essential for the forging of antidictatorship unity on a responsible basis that can effectively guarantee the triumph of democracy in Haiti.

In addition to speaking out in favor of this unity, we work to make all the groups that exist in Haiti, whether legally or clandestinely, recognize the need of this unity based on the achievement of clear goals in opposition to the dictatorship.

[Question] Do you think that without assistance from abroad, the Duvalier regime could have managed to remain in power?

[Answer] It's clear that the Duvalier regime remains in power only because of the support of the Yankee imperialists. The struggle against the dictatorship has not let up for the 22 years under the Duvalier yoke. The Duvalier dictatorship has always been unpopular to the extent that it has always had to resort to repression to remain in power. The regime would never have been able to resist the Haitian people's movement if it hadn't had the unlimited support of the Yankee imperialists.

Naturally, even despite this support, the regime can be overthrown. When the unity of the democratic forces becomes consolidated, and the people's movement is sufficiently strong in the country, the regime will not be able to resist the onslaught of the Haitian democratic movement despite its alliance with the Yankee imperialists, especially if this movement has the brotherly support of all those in the Caribbean region, Latin America and in countries throughout the world who favor democracy.

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ELECTIONS WILL NOT BE POSTPONED

Military Leader Comments

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Feb 80 p 2

[Article By Marco Tulio Romero]

[Text] "Any military man can be a candidate to the Presidency of the Republic, whenever he accepts his nomination," Col Hubert Bodden Caceres declared yesterday. He had just met with Leonidas Torres Arias, Chief of Military Intelligence of the armed forces (G 2) in the Government House.

This officer, who holds the position of commanding officer of the 11th Infantry Battalion, stationed at Choluteca, explained that based on the preceding argument there would be no problem, but that the theme had not been discussed inside the Higher Council of the military organization.

On this subject, he commented that the national constituent assembly will have full powers to determine the most suitable form in which future presidents should be elected. It could be by direct or indirect elections. He firmly stated that "as far as that is concerned the members of the assembly have the last word."

Bodden Caceres once again echoed the words of the chairman of the Government Military Junta, Gen Policarpo Paz Garcia, when he ratified the holding of "fair and democratic elections" in Honduras. He pointed out that the possibility of postponing the date for the elections should be the subject of an analysis, but he declared that he had no knowledge of that question in any official capacity but only through press reports.

Violence in Honduras

This member of the COSUFFAA declared that just as in the rest of the countries in the Central American area violence could come to Honduras, although he refrained from commenting on the motives that would bring it about.

In that sense, speaking laconically, he remarked that any republic in the world is exposed to situations of that kind, although he specified that he does not believe that the situation that we are experiencing at the present

time will carry us to such extremes. He made it clear that the national army is not repressive, as a response to the attitude that they might assume at a given moment and facing the circumstances that surround us.

Cooperation, Action Anticipated

He declared that just as the constitution establishes, they are disposed to cooperate with the constitutional president and to act against those movements which tend to subvert the security of the state and order in the state.

In spite of this he went on to declare that they will intervene on the basis of whatever the Executive Power which may be constituted at that moment may decide. In any case, he pointed out, "where better perspectives on the national level are perceived with the installation of a new regime."

Normal Relations with Nicaragua

The military commandant of the south divulged that complete tranquility has been achieved in the Nicaraguan border zone after a series of joint meetings held with the commanders of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN).

Touching on the former Somoza guards, he declared that as they are entitled to the right of asylum and because it is a humanitarian act, they cannot be returned to that government. At the same time he declared that "we have to put up with those people, since no other country wants them." He was of the opinion that Somoza's former disciples are entitled to equal treatment with the Saninists who fell into the hands of the army on a prior occasion, since no interest was ever shown in either of the two fighting factions.

Military Movement

Consulted on the transfer of subordinate officers who are known under the acronym of OSOS the commander of the 11th Infantry Battalion declared that he has no comment to make as he is not familiar with the situation.

In the same way he expressed himself on the communique by the Information Agency of the United States Embassy [USSICA], which refers to a grant of 319 million lempiras in military aid by that country to ours.

Government Spokesman Comments

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 26 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] The Armed Forces Government confirmed yesterday that elections to the National Constituent Assembly will take place next 20 April, thus denying presumed postponement of that date which some information media were declaring possible.

This information was given by Col Cristobal Diaz Garcia, minister of government and justice, who explained that anything that may be alleged about the postponement of the elections "does not go beyond the realm of speculation." He stated that in addition to there being a promise to the people, Eliseo Perez Cadalso, minister of foreign relations, has communicated with the United Nations and with the Organization of American States that the elections will be held at the promised time and that consequently the responsibility reaches the international level.

Diaz Garcia, in spite of speaking as a military officer, declared that he shared the opinion of experts on the subject in the sense that to speak of delaying the date of the election is a part of the current political juggling.

The minister of the interior revealed that whenever the people are able to elect the authorities which are to govern them, they return to a constitutional order which turns out to the best. Both here and in any part of the world.

Enviably Position

On the other hand, he emphasized that in convulsed Central America Honduras occupies an enviable position due to the climate of social peace and calm in which we live.

He declared that precisely when facing a panorama of this nature, we occupy an exemplary place which many sister republics want to hold.

Nevertheless, he emphasized that we are not exempt from violence and that in that sense we Hondurans are responsible for making the climate of tranquility that we are living in now prevail.

Former Somoza Guards

He maintained that the measures pertaining to the expulsion of the former Somoza guards have not been exhausted. Those guards were supposedly preparing a conspiracy against the Nicaraguan regime.

In the same sense he added that the problem is on the refugee level. Among those refugees there are even former officials of the deposed Somoza regime and as of this date nine of them have been expelled for violations of national laws.

He exposed that the treatment of the Honduran authorities has been as impartial for the Sandinists seeking refuge as it is for the followers of Somoza and that in that sense the expulsions will continue whenever acts are committed that are contrary to our laws.

HONDURAS

FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR ELECTIONS REPORTED

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 25 Feb 80 p 4

[Article by Ramon Murillo Cantoral]

[Text] Honduras has entered the home stretch leading to the holding of elections, now that the Innovation and Unity Party [PINU] has presented, as of last week, its list of candidates for the National Constituent Assembly.

Since the principal actors in the process which will return the nation to its constitutional state are already known, it is anticipated that there will be no reneging on the military promise to hold "free and honest" elections on 20 April 1980.

There are some factors which can have a negative impact on the development of an orderly election, outstanding among them the agrarian, student and political problems, without any true concern in high places for finding appropriate solutions to these matters.

Claims

With respect to the agrarian question, there is a consensus among the peasant organizations to pressure the authorities to step up the delivery of lands to their members, and thus we find that in the last rural takeovers, all members of all rural groups took an equal part.

The question is made more acute if one takes into consideration that the planting season is approaching and that the peasants are pressuring their leaders to pressure the authorities in turn, to find solutions to the serious problem.

The recently named director of the National Agrarian Institute, Col Manuel Enrique Suarez, has not commented on the land takeovers, and his spokesmen have only said that the stepping up of the land distribution procedure is being studied.

Regarding the education conflict, the "takeovers" and teacher, student and parent strikes have proliferated far and wide throughout the country at a time when classes have hardly started, which portends serious confrontation in the immediate future.

In this respect, the minister of education, Dr Eugenio Matute Canizales, expressed the opinion that those "operatives" have as their only purpose the derailing of the elections "because of the discontent which prevails among all the groups which remain outside the process."

The epicenter of the political conflict is in the action developed by the Honduran Patriotic Front [FPH] and the lack of understanding among the internal currents of the Liberal Party, factors which have not been properly evaluated by those in charge of the armed forces.

The FPH is demanding reestablishment of the electoral process and the incorporation of other, isolated currents, "before the grave events which culminated in the change of government in Nicaragua and El Salvador are repeated in our country."

Whatever it was, some observers feel that the actions of those groups "could justify derailment of the electoral process through a new coup d'etat perpetrated by the radical right wing of the army or through the hardening of the positions maintained by the present regime."

The Possibilities

If there are no major surprises in the few days remaining before the culmination of the process toward the middle of this year, the solemn installation of the National Constituent Assembly will take place in the Legislative Palace.

In principle, a closed struggle between the two traditional political forces of the country is foreseen. Both nationalists and liberals claim to have majority support, which is not shared by the third party in question, the PINU, whose leaders believe they can put up quite a fight.

Logically speaking, those three forces do not include all Hondurans who are anxious to participate in the election of deputies, but there are no signs that the high government officials are going to set things right, and everything appears to indicate that nobody else will be invited to the process.

The National Party is expected to win, thanks to its better internal organization, which includes a greater movement of human and financial resources, some of them directly linked to public administration, which gives them a greater margin of advantage over their rivals.

Nationalism also has official preference in its favor, which is evident with the blue army in prominent positions, such as municipal mayoralties, political leaderships, secretaries of state and the greatest number of seats on the National Election Tribunal.

If we add to this the statements of certain high military officers to the effect that "90 percent of the armed forces are of nationalist extraction," we see that the possibilities for this party are extremely broad and that the party led by Ricardo Zuniga Augustinus can already be considered the winner by a large percentage.

The "chachureca" [conservative] leadership has been able to sort out its internal differences with ease, and an example of this is that it has allowed the running of independent candidates outside the official line, without taking disciplinary measures against supporters of those candidates, thus giving the impression of democracy in its ranks.

This has not happened in the Liberal Party, where only the threat to expel from the organization those who launched independent candidates frightened several dissidents who tried to fight for the favor of the rank and file even against the official wishes of the Central Executive.

We also must not lose sight of the fact that exemplary "punishments" have been announced for those members of the People's Liberal Alliance [ALIPO] who are promoting electoral absenteeism or who refuse to participate in the process, demonstrating in this way that liberalism is also trying to present an image of unity, through coercion and threats against their partisans.

Liberalism suffered its worst blow before coming to the polls with the death of its leader, Modesto Rodas Alvarado, who died last year when he was just on the verge of consolidating the party's unity.

His death showed that he was not the bone of contention whose passing would bring harmony to the red and white rank and file, and it is believed that at this time an understanding is almost impossible in view of the fact that the leaders of the CCEPL will not want to give up their aspirations to the Constituent Assembly in favor of their adversaries in the ALIPO.

Basically, the liberal question comes down to the possession of the seals of the parties and the seats in the Constituent Assembly, with certain honorable exceptions. It is expected that by going to the polls the liberals will only confirm their lack of organization and popular support, because they lack truly representative and widely known personalities.

The third contender, the PINU, has drawn to its rank and file broad peasant, union and technical sectors whose position in the Constituent Assembly if it wins, would be a real headache for the leaders of the inexperienced party.

The choice of the PINU could produce good results if the rank and file really follow faithfully their leaders-turned-politicians, and perhaps for this reason the leadership of those organizations has been careful to offer the candidacies to "outworn" peasant and worker leaders.

Finally, it is hoped that the PINU will play a decorous role in the elections, in keeping with its short existence in the political arena, which traditionally has been the property of the blues and reds.

There will also be various independent candidates who hope to get to the Constituent Assembly, taking advantage of the discontent caused by the announcement of the candidates of the historic political parties. Their aspirations are considered legitimate, and it is probable that their fight will bring other desired results.

In general terms, that is the present election picture and the options which the citizens have. The elections will be held more for people than for government programs, since the parties have relegated to second place the presentation of their respective programs, which are for the most part unknown. The important thing about the culmination of the process is that it will permit the establishment of the basis for a constitutional government, with the option of healing along the way the wounds left by the party confrontation and of rectifying the unwise steps which prevented greater citizen participation in the election of the country's new leaders.

We suppose it has to be that way, because we cannot ignore for very long the valuable cooperation that might be rendered by many persons and organizations who were left out on this occasion and who are not willing to remain in obscurity for the next few years.

8735

CSO: 3010

HONDURAS

PAPER SAYS ELECTIONS WILL REAFFIRM DEMOCRACY

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 24 Feb 80 p 5

[Editorial: "The April Elections"]

[Text] Less than 2 months remains before Hondurans keep an important date with history: Next 20 April, in elections which we all hope will be free and worthy of our trust, the people will elect the members of the National Constituent Assembly which will restore our country to a state of law.

In this period prior to the elections, as is natural, many voices have been heard supporting the reconstructive process of democracy, as well as an occasional one against the elections.

Among those small groups who reject civic life, alleging that it is rife with fraud from its very inception, it has been said, among many other ideas, that elections, per se, will not solve the acute problems of underdevelopment, extreme poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, etc.

And this is true.

But what is not being said is that at no time have the political parties, the de facto regime or the communications media made the fleeting claim that all evils which beset our society will disappear at the conjuring of an election.

LA PRENSA, which has always fought for democratic government and which at no time has dropped the banner of legality (in response either to praise or to threats), has consistently affirmed in its editorial columns that democracy is not a perfect system that a people can acquire in the marketplace as though they were buying consumer goods.

Open, free and pluralist societies are always projects which continue to be built day by day, which begin with very timid measures that have the character of a process, as is the case with a constituent election, and mature progressively as the citizens--individually and through their intermediary organizations--claim their rights, expound their points of view and gradually reach ever higher levels of participation in the decisionmaking process.

If, for example, on 20 April we Hondurans go to the polls (as we must), and then we do not exercise any kind of civic pressure on the members of the National Constituent Assembly, but rather leave them to their own whims, we must not be surprised if they appear to approve standards of public order which do not correspond either to the aspirations or to the interests of the great majorities.

In the United States, to mention a very well-known example, the voters write to their congressmen; they express to them sincerely and energetically their points of view; they let them see that the rank-and-file citizen is thinking about what is being done in Congress, and under pain of losing reelection, the representatives and senators formulate their positions within the parameters drawn up by those who have given the mandate of legislator in their names.

But that is only one aspect of democracy.

There are many others: the labor unions, the peasant associations, the various social groups--all have the right and the duty to speak out with respect to what the government is or is not doing.

And, unlike what occurs with a de facto government, which owes nobody anything, the democratic regime hears the clamor of the citizens, evaluates it responsibly and finally incorporates it into its own plans about what is to be the administrative work within the public sector.

For this reason, democracy is one of the most difficult forms of coexistence, and perhaps for that reason it has not succeeded in taking root in Latin America.

Our people lived in the pre-Colombian era, under the authoritarianism of kings, high priests and witches.

Later on, they were "governed" by the viceroys, captains general and comendadors of the Spanish empire.

And when independence arrived, since ignorance continued to be almost universal, the creole dictatorships emerged, often supported by foreign forces, and in every case the citizens were denied the possibility of self-government, which is--in the last analysis--what democracy means.

At present it is very common to hear someone (even the relatively educated) say, "That is a problem for the government. Let them see to it. I don't meddle in those things; I am apolitical."

And such irresponsible generalization has, in our countries, given a foothold for the vital problems of society to be concentrated on the shoulders of insignificant minorities and to be resolved--when they are--by the governments. This is the root of paternalism, of collective apathy, and of course, of strongman leadership and unholy alliances, radical negations of true democracy.

For this reason we agree with those who say that only casting a vote will not resolve the situation of underdevelopment.

But doubtless it will be the primary base, the initial foundation, for the structuring of a government based on law and not on individuals; responsible to the people and not to the military; supported by the majority of the people and not by bayonets, and therefore open to the claims, demands and controls of the civil society.

Of course, it will be a long road to democracy. It will be necessary to recognize other parties. We will have to promote the appearance of new forms of social participation.

But "a 1,000-kilometer journey begins with one step." And therefore all Hondurans, without exception, and especially those who have children and feel responsible for their future, must go to the polls on 20 April.

That is the least we can do so that the problems of coexistence may be resolved by peaceful means and to prevent what is happening in Guatemala and El Salvador from occurring here among ourselves.

8735

CSO: 3010

LAW DEAN DISCUSSES ELECTORAL PROCESS

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Feb 80 p 22

[Text] "Depending on the juridical, political, and historical situation of the country when the time comes, the next president of the republic may be elected indirectly by the Constituent Assembly, or directly by the people. The historical circumstances of the time will decide."

This is the position of the dean of the School of Law of the National Autonomous University, Oswaldo Ramos Soto, regarding the choice of the country's next president.

"It is a political and juridical question; juridically it is possible for the president to be elected by the legislative branch. Let us not forget the two precedents: Ramon Villeda Morales, in 1957, and Oswaldo Lopez Arellano in 1965 were elected by an assembly, and both times there were two different parties. Juridically it can be done again."

Now on the other hand, "the president should be elected by the people directly. I want to make it clear, we must see what the situation in the country is at the time; we must consider at the time the president is elected whether or not it is better, in the interests of the country, to elect its highest authorities indirectly or to put off the election for the future."

Oswaldo Ramos' personal opinion on that important subject is that a selection should be made by the legislators, which will be studied by representatives of the people, which is the best thing for the nation. "Personally I believe it is good if the legislative branch does it, and much better if it is done directly by the people in elections."

8587

CSO: 3010

HONDURAS

POLITICAL PARTIES TO BEGIN DIALOG

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 21 Feb 80 p 22

[Text] The National Party of Honduras yesterday officially announced through its spokesman Nicolas Cruz Torres, that it will encourage national-level dialog among the armed forces, the Liberal Party, and the Innovation and Unity Party [PINU].

The National Party spokesman stressed that "the people of Honduras should maintain a constant dialog, even more so now when we are on the verge of a lawful regime after a long period of arbitrary government."

He said that the National Party took the initiative on the dialog after 4 December 1972, when, rupturing the constitutional order, the nationalist government was overthrown. At that time, he said, the "National Union of Democratic Institutions" was formed in conjunction with other social and political forces, and that was when the government was pressured to move the country toward a legitimate government.

Speaking for his political institution, he said that "Renewal of that dialog is worthwhile, with the participation of the political institutions which will take part in the electoral process, and the armed forces."

He also said that this will tell the countries of the world that it is possible in Honduras to return peacefully and patriotically to the true life of a people through free and honest elections as the national army has promised, which we support 100 percent."

The political leader said that "basically at this time when the eyes of the whole world are on Honduras, it is worthwhile to have a dialog such as the National Party is suggesting to give the people confidence, to avoid the outcry of those minorities out of public favor who do not want any elections, neither today nor tomorrow, but are only hoping for a nod to include themselves in the national budget."

Ideological Pluralism

The National Party, based upon ideological pluralism, would approve of the National Constituent Assembly in formulating the constitution, permitting registration of the so-called proscribed parties, such as the communist, socialist, and others of the revolutionary tendency, according to Cruz Torres.

He added that "the National Party officially declares that the constitution of the republic should be open, broad, in the sense of offering an opportunity for all ideological tendencies, including those now proscribed, to organize into political parties, so that the highest judge, the people of Honduras, can be the ones to make their political choice at the polls, by their own free will, their reasoning,"

He also stated that the National Party is certain that the people of Honduras have a great desire for democracy and that the people's faith in the democratic institutions will always prevail.

8587

CSO: 3010

HONDURAS

LIBERALS WILL SEEK OPPOSITION COOPERATION IF THEY WIN

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Mar 80 p 9

[Text] "When it wins the elections, the Liberal Party will call upon the best men in the National Party, the army, the Innovation and Unity Party (PINU), and other brilliant people who are not members of any political group, and of course, the best men in the Liberal Party, to participate in its government."

This plan was officially announced by the Liberal Party through the secretary of the Executive Council, Juan Fernando Lopez, when he was asked about the matter last weekend.

He said that "we will form an honest government, and administrative corruption, which is not the fault of the military men but rather of the old ways of doing things, will be wiped out by the Liberal Party, so that once again one can trust those who are running the country."

Including the military in the administration is not a politization of the armed forces, according to the Liberal Party secretary.

Referring to the army, Juan Fernando Lopez said that real professionalization of that body was necessary to maintain peace in the country, "because in Honduras there are individuals who say they are true patriots, but who in truth are great traitors who are being manipulated from abroad."

He referred specifically to some organized groups which are seeking the social breakdown of the country. "I am not giving any examples, but it is known that there are many citizens getting slogans from abroad, and that is treason to the country," he added.

"Pact" Among Liberal Party, National Party, PINU, Armed Forces

Speaking of an integrated government, he was asked if that political institution was intended to make a new "pact, with its supplementary agreement" with the nationalists, the PINU, the armed forces, and others.

He stressed that "it will be an integrated government, based on a new system and not on pacts as was the case before. "We believe that the pact between the democratic left and the National Party failed because what they did was to make a pact to distribute jobs and not a pact to develop the country," he said.

According to the secretary, this subject had been discussed in the Executive Council. He stated that it will be a national government "because it would be suicidal for the party that wins control of the government to try to form a sectarian administration with only its own people, because times have changed."

Juan Fernando Lopez strengthened this argument in saying that the party that wins the elections will not do so with a wide margin, which means that there will be a large opposition and there will not be a good government.

"The next government must be the result of a real alliance because if it is not, it will not be able to govern Honduras, given the social and political conditions in the isthmus and Honduras," the Liberal Party secretary concluded.

8587

CSO: 3610

NATIONAL BANK FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT REPLACES BANAFOM

PA010424 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1652 GMT 31 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 31 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran police stated here today that on Saturday it took custody of all of the National Development Bank [BANAFOM] installations throughout the country to forestall any actions by the institution's labor union.

This measure was taken because the military government decided to dismiss all BANAFOM employees following the payment of \$3 million in labor benefits.

The government's decision was taken because starting today the National Development Bank, devoted to the financing of industrial, agricultural, cattle raising and agroindustrial projects, will disappear as such.

The National Development Bank has now become the National Bank for Agricultural Development [BANDESA].

This institution will finance only agricultural development projects to avoid a duplication of effort and interference from other government agencies, and to speed up the agrarian reform process.

BANAFOM union members have always been opposed to the bank's disappearance and had favored the creation of another entity to achieve the government's objectives.

The new institution has been organized by Central Bank technicians, with foreign consultation, at the request of the military government.

CSO: 3010

BRIEFS

PL LEADER'S COMMENTS--Jose Azcona de Hoyo, liberal leader, issued an appeal to the good sense of Hondurans in the days preceding the elections which will carry our country to a life of law. "For us, being liberals means being tolerant with friend and foe and not seeing the political opponent as an enemy," he said. He added that the liberals of Honduras should give an example of civic-mindedness by accepting the ideas and opinions of others. In another connection, he announced that the Liberal Party (PL) will not condone a future in which situations of social injustice prevail, as they do now. In a tacit reference to the People's Liberal Alliance (ALIPO), he said that the errors of the liberal leaders should be tolerated. "Being liberal, in the broad sense of the term," the PL leader said, "is recognizing the rights of other liberals who may be as good or as bad as our own; it is pardoning the injury which at times is inflicted in the heat of political battle, all for the purpose of bringing the PL into power on 20 April 1980." [Text] [San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Mar 80 p 19] 8143

SUPPORT FOR INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE--Last Thursday, in the town of Potrerillos, Cortes department, independent candidate Luis Bogran Fortin and his alternate, Julio Cesar Madrid, held a political meeting which was attended by approximately 300 persons. However, the presence of Gen Juan Alberto Melgar Castro at this political meeting was the most noteworthy feature of the event, as this military man had stated repeatedly that he was not participating in partisan politics and that he was spending his time on his business affairs and sports. Members of the municipal council, headed by Mayor Roberto Castro Handal, were in attendance. Some political observers indicated their interest in knowing the political objectives being sought by the former chief of state, Melgar Castro, during the political junkets he has been making with Bogran Fortin and commented that at least the presence of Juan Alberto Melgar at such activities gives moral support to the independent candidacy which his friend had launched in Cortes Department. In a related connection, individuals from the municipality of San Antonio de Cortes told this newspaper that the San Juan estate, where General Melgar Castro resides, is being visited constantly by Prof Julio Cesar Madrid, the alternate of Bogran Fortin for the independent candidacy, which could give rise to the belief that there is some connection with the political campaign being conducted by the MODENI (MTR) [Nationalist Independent Democratic Movement]. [Text] [San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Mar 80 p 4] 8143

ELECTION BOARD VIOLATIONS--"The National Election Board has violated the law," according to a statement made yesterday in Tegucigalpa by Armando Aguilar Cruz, in the name of the People's Liberal Alliance [ALIPO], as he pointed out that this organization had made use of a constitutional guarantee which assures the right of petition. Aguilar Cruz was referring to ALIPO petitions to the board in connection with a number of actions by the Central Executive Council of the Liberal Party. He said that he was not making any charges but was "making a legal point on the subject of the norms prevailing in the country." He said that dissidents of the Liberal Party wanted to exhaust all the channels open to them to defend the rights to which they are entitled. He accused the Central Executive Committee of "not having been receptive to ALIPO requests." "We wanted to hold an extraordinary convention; however, the Central Committee leadership took exception and turned us down completely, displaying a lack of internal democracy in the party." He announced that the ALIPO would recover the Liberal Party and is working to achieve its objective over the short-term. Once again he charged, "The election process is fraudulent as it is already indicating who is the winner; and the ALIPO seeks to have the Liberal Party withdraw from this process so that it will not be involved in a situation which tomorrow is going to cause a great convulsion in Honduras, when the people's wishes are not satisfied. This point is in accordance with the resolution adopted by ALIPO's second national conference held recently in San Pedro Sula." [Text] [San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 10 Mar 80 p 23] 8143

CSO: 3010

NEW DIRECTORATES FOR PROGRAMMING, BUDGET ANNOUNCED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 29 Feb 80 Sec B p 3

[Text] The new internal regulations of the Secretariat of Programming and Budget published yesterday in the Official Gazette call for the creation of at least 10 new subordinate general directorates.

The aforementioned regulations are the result of the work done on administrative reorganization. The newly created offices will prevent "uncovered areas, duplication of functions and a waste of productive effort." It is expected that, with the new increase in "general directorates," this State Secretariat will be able "to progress in the pursuit of the main objective, which is to convert programming into a fundamental tool of the government of the republic, and to arrange and streamline the fundamental administrative systems for the construction and consolidation of the processes of planning, programming, budgets and evaluation."

Included in the newly created offices on the general directorate level are those of: budget policy; agricultural-livestock and fishing budget; energy and industrial budget; budget and social development; budget, and administration and finance; information policy; promotion of state development; complete rural development; and operational control of delegations.

Furthermore, according to the regulations in question, from now on the entity heretofore known as the National Information System will be known as General Coordination of National Statistical, Geographical and Informational Services.

The Secretariat of Programming and Budget did not announce when the new personnel for these offices would be hired, nor when the new directors would be appointed.

On the other hand, it was explained that the General Directorates of Expenditures and Public Investments would go out of existence.

2909

CSO: 3010

PIPELINES, SHIPS PLANNED TO AID PEMEX

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 28 Feb 80 Sec B pp 1, 2

[Text] For the purpose of alleviating the problem of the lack of transportation facilities besetting the country, President Jose Lopez Portillo authorized the implementation of a program of "ships and pipelines," systems with which Mexican Petroleum [PEMEX] will move a large volume of its products, thereby making a considerable reduction in its use of railroads and automotive transportation.

At a press conference, the oil company admitted that the shortage of transportation facilities had caused delays in the deliveries of fuel, and was jeopardizing the fulfillment of future commitments; and therefore a special program was devised for the movement of the 202 million tons of various products that it will ship this year.

The plan, called "ships and pipelines," includes rehabilitation and an impetus for better utilization of port installations, the construction of others, the administrative reorganization of PEMEX departments and their coordination with seven state secretariats.

The details of this plan were explained by the coordinator of drilling and production programs for PEMEX, engineer Miguel Angel Zenteno Basurto, who said that one of the essential parts of the program is aimed at activating the coastwise shipping trade, which entails many economic and social repercussions.

He pointed out that PEMEX has been confronted with various problems stemming from the inadequacy of transportation; and public relations manager Reynaldo Jauregui Zentella explained that this was noted in recent months, when there was a failure to supply fuel for days in some parts of the country, owing to the lack of transportation.

Engineer Zenteno noted that the program had been devised due to the fact that, if the necessary measures are not adopted in time, in view of the large volume to be moved by rail or highway, serious problems or "bottlenecks" would occur, interfering with the efficiency in carrying out operational or investment programs.

After describing the rail transportation and, to a lesser extent, the highway transportation as "critical," he reported that PEMEX shipments in 1980 would amount to 202 million tons, 96 percent of which consists of crude oil, gas and by-products; adding that the pipeline system allows for the movement of 75 percent, 10 percent is moved by ship and 11 percent by rail or highway.

According to the programs to be carried out, the entry into service of new polyducts and expansions on those already existing will make it possible to reduce the volume of petroliferous products moved by automotive transportation by 15 percent during 1980.

But, through the "ships and pipelines" plan, it will be possible to make a considerable reduction in the land transport of material and equipment, cutting by 39 percent the volumes requiring shipment by rail, and by 28 percent those moved on highways; which is equivalent to leaving 1,736 tank cars and 788 trucks available for other users.

With regard to maritime traffic, plans call for the construction of 950 meters of docks, new warehouses and switchyards, and the purchase of 65 large cranes to provide service in Tampico, Veracruz, Tuxpan, Coatzacoalcas, Pajaritos, Congrejera, Chiltepec, Frontera, El Bayo and Lerma, in the Gulf.

Whereas, in the Pacific, the projects will be carried out in Manzanillo, Lazaro Cardenas and Salinas Cruz, as well as in coastwise shipping ports and the mouths of rivers which will be reached by means of barges and vessels of lesser draft.

2909

CSO: 3010

FUEL SHORTAGES IN NORTHERN BORDER AREAS

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 28 Feb 80 Sec A p 2

[Text] Reynosa, Tamaulipas, 27 February--There is an urgent need for 100 million liters of diesel fuel to drive 5,390 tractors being used for the planting work during the interval of the next 100 days.

Faced with an energy crisis in the region, the managing committees of irrigation districts 25, 26 and 50, and seasonal district 02 notified Francisco Merino Rabago, head of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Water Resources, of the urgent need to insure the necessary fuel.

A confidential report sent to Merino Rabago today and made available to EL SOL DE MEXICO on an exclusive basis discusses the demand for fuel to carry out the planting programs during the early cycle.

In the northern area and in central Tamaulipas, the national mechanization plan has been augmented with 5,390 diesel-powered tractors and 1,304 tractors driven with tractogas.

The area requires a consumption of 970,000 liters of diesel fuel per day, and half a million liters of tractogas per month, in order to be able to plant the 300,000 hectares of irrigated land and 330,000 seasonal land.

Mexican Petroleum rationed diesel sales, arguing that it is being smuggled into the United States, where it costs 7 pesos per liter, whereas it costs 1 peso in Mexico. The commander of the customs border guard reported that two 1979 Chevrolet trucks with extra tanks loaded with diesel fuel were stopped today.

With regard to the foregoing, the head of the farmers, Hector Rodriguez, stated: "We are using the diesel to work in the countryside; customs and PEMEX should investigate who is smuggling the fuel."

The state representative of chambers of commerce, Jose Adrian Martinez, said that the gasoline shortage is currently causing major losses in the area.

David Espinosa Avila, secretary general of local 36 of the oil workers union, declared that there is sufficient fuel, and that the Reynosa refinery is producing what is necessary for the supply, and has the aid of the Cadereyta and Madero refineries; and he observed that it is up to PEMEX to solve this problem.



Diesel--A telling picture of the shortage of high-test and unleaded gasoline at one of the 30 service stations on the Tamaulipas border, noted from the long lines of vehicles waiting in vain to be sold fuel. This problem has been present for 2 months, but in the past 72 hours there has been a crisis, with a complete lack of gasoline and diesel fuel, accompanied by serious consequences and economic losses for industry, trade and agriculture.

2909

CSO: 3010

PEMEX CONCERNED OVER TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 3 Mar 80 p 9

[Text] As a result of the accelerated economic growth spurred on by the federal public administration during the past 3 years, and owing to its own dynamics, demands have been placed on certain sectors which have occasionally exceeded their capacity to respond.

In this connection, the critical level of service observed in rail transportation and, to a lesser degree, in highway transportation, is cause for concern to Mexican Petroleum, considering the importance involved in the oil industry's ability to implement its expansion programs and to meet the production and distribution commitments made to date.

For this reason, Mexican Petroleum has engaged in the task of seeking alternative methods of transportation, to insure a timely supply and provision of the goods that it requires and produces; which will make it possible to optimize the use of the human, financial, material and organizational resources available in the institution, all within the current framework that the transportation is offering for the nation's development.

It is the purpose of this article to report the most significant aspects of the analysis that has been made, inasmuch as they have given shape to a proposal in this regard, which requires support and coordinated action with other agencies in the public sector.

Transportation Requirements

It is estimated that, in 1980, the total goods produced by Mexican Petroleum, plus the materials and equipment that it needs for its operation and development, comprise a gross total volume of 201.6 million tons to be moved.

The majority (96 percent) consists of crude oil, petroleum by-products and natural gas. The infrastructure developed by PEMEX makes it possible to accommodate 75 percent of the total by means of oil pipelines, gas pipelines and polyducts. Of the remaining volume of products, 10 percent will have to be moved by ship, and 11 percent by railroad tank-cars and tank trucks.

When one considers the fact that the supply of basic construction materials is provided, as a rule, from locations close to the areas of activity; and hence has no significant effect on the long-distance transportation, one concludes that the amount of freight depending on rail and highway transportation in 1980 will be about 26.6 million tons.

According to the conventional modes of transportation, 22.6 million tons would be handled by highway, and 4.0 million by rail. These volumes represent 7.6 and 4.9 percent of the national total for each method of transportation; and, although they are not of great relative size, they do constitute significant amounts that are being affected by the problems which exist in the sector.

For the analysis of the movement, we must make a distinction between the products manufactured by PEMEX and the materials and equipment required for its operation and development.

Insofar as petroleum products are concerned, transportation by pipeline is obligatory for a considerable percentage, so as to minimize transportation costs and guarantee the pertinent supplies. Therefore, PEMEX, in conjunction with the Mexican Petroleum Institute, is conducting studies to optimize the respective operations, which comprise a plan of greater breadth than the one which concerns us now.

However, it should be noted that the entry into operation of new polyducts, as well as certain expansions in the existing ones, will make it possible during 1980 to reduce by 15 percent the volume of petroleum by-products currently being moved by rail and highway; thereby freeing 208 rail transportation units and 451 highway transportation units, for the benefit of other users.

The foregoing prompts us to focus attention on the 3.6 million tons of material and equipment, the timely shipment of which this year constitutes the cornerstone on which the development of the oil industry rests.

The transportation of these volumes, of both native and imported origin, involves a vital strategy which merits the greatest consideration of Mexican Petroleum.

The places of origin of the material and equipment are located in different parts of the country, as well as in border areas and seaports. Prominent among the producing areas are: Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, with 27 percent of the native production; Colima and Michoacan, with 23 percent; Veracruz, with 17 percent; and Salamanca, with 9 percent; while Coatzacoalcas accounts for 40 percent of the entry of imported goods; Nuevo Laredo, 19 percent; and Tampico, 17 percent.

Considering the placement of the priority activities in the oil industry, the volume required in each destination point has been calculated; from

which one observes that 66 percent must be moved to the southeastern part of the country, comprised of: 31 percent in the Tabasco area, 21 percent in Chiapas, 12 percent in Coatzacoalcos and 2 percent in Campeche.

This movement, if carried out according to the traditionally centralized patterns converging in the metropolitan area of Mexico City, would establish a flow along the routes that make up the backbone of the nation's railroad communications, which would be upset by the current crowding of the system. The ports of Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, and Tampico, Tamaulipas, are particularly troublesome points, in view of the percentages of volumes from PEMEX in the local traffic.

The highway traffic would consist of a similar flow.

It is noted that, if the traditional patterns are not changed, 49 percent of the material assigned to the southern zone would cross the congested areas of the plateau, with the resultant effects of a lag in the investment and production programs of Mexican Petroleum.

Alternative Transportation

In order to deal with the problem that has been described within the context of the intentions of this administration, which has been concerned with increasing efficiency and making the best use of its resources, an exhaustive analysis was made of alternative means of interconnecting the points of origin and destination.

Two basic methods were established for producing and selecting alternatives: to guarantee complete implementation of the supply program, and to cut the costs of the pertinent operations.

There was available for this purpose a series of records and extensive experience in the use of unconventional transportation facilities, owing to the nature of oil development work which is often located in areas lacking in communications. By way of example, there is the construction of PEMEX City in 1958, and the recent construction of the 48 inch gas pipeline in the Main Gas System; projects wherein maritime and river transportation was used to supply materials.

The foregoing led to a consideration of the use of coastwise shipping transportation to receive equipment and materials, both from within the country and from outside, subsequently reshipping it to other ports, so as to be taken to the places of destination.

The predictions on the operation of the various alternatives, and the pertinent evaluation afforded the establishment of the system that PEMEX intends to enact for 1980, which will allow for a considerable reduction in the land movement of materials and equipment, cutting the volumes moved by rail 39 percent, and those using highway transportation 28 percent, and also eliminating the most troublesome traffic areas.

This will be reflected in the release of 1,528 tank cars and 337 automotive transport units, in addition to those previously mentioned for the transportation of products.

Although the system attaches importance to maritime transportation, the distribution of the points of embarkation and reshipment has reduced the amount of cargo that has been filling the ports of Tampico and Coatzacoalcas, in the Gulf of Mexico, to date; inasmuch as it calls for the use of vessels and barges with a draft geared to the conditions at selected locations, such as Arbol Brande, Tamaulipas; Tuxpan and Anton Lizardo, in Veracruz; Chiltepec and Frontera, in Tabasco; and Lerma, in Campeche.

The reallocation of transportation facilities has also made it possible to reduce considerably the movement in border areas, which would naturally entail the use of rail and highway transportation under the traditional system.

With regard to the Pacific ports, a sizable increase is proposed in the movement through the ports of Manzanillo, Lazaro Cardenas and Salina Cruz, essentially to eliminate the transportation of baryta, about 416,000 tons of which would be moved overland from Colima and Michoacan to the southeast.

The proposed option reduces the volume of traffic through the nation's plateau, which will help resolve the transportation problems in a traditionally congested area, but which, in particular, will insure the timely supply of materials and equipment, despite the reliance on maritime transportation, which means stoppages on account of bad weather for 45 days, distributed throughout a period of 1 year.

Requirements for Investment and Operating Expenses

The streamlining of the system for transporting material and equipment demanded by Mexican Petroleum's operations entails an expansion of the necessary infrastructure for maintaining the new emphasis on maritime transportation, as well as a change in the operating expenses stemming from the traditional system.

The expansion and outfitting of the port installations to accommodate the new flow require an investment of 598 million pesos in projects and equipment. Of this sum, 42 percent will be earmarked for the construction of yards and storage facilities in the vicinity of various ports; and the rest will be allocated for the construction of 950 linear meters of docks, and the purchase of 65 cranes for loading and unloading maneuvers in the new installations.

The transportation costs under the new option entail an annual outlay similar to that required by the traditional system. It should be pointed out

that, for purposes of evaluation, the railroad rates rather than the national costs were taken as a basis, which provides an additional margin in the economic evaluation.

The operating expenses include the rental of the equipment needed to import material and equipment coming from abroad, and to engage in coastwise shipping between the ports included in the new option.

They also include the cost of the personnel required at the new areas for storage and movement of cargo.

But the most significant aspect of this plan consists of the reduction of risks of delay due to lack of equipment and materials in all the activities in the southern zone. As a theoretical frame of reference, it was considered that the optimization of a group of operations similar to those carried out in 1979, under the assumption of an immediate availability of materials and equipment, would make it possible to increase the efficient use of resources valued at 987 million pesos.

The true dimensions of the transportation problem are reflected in the importance of timeliness in oil production. In this respect we need only point out that the postponement for a month of the production from a single oil well in Campeche Sound, because of a lack of equipment or material, would mean that the present administration would fail to receive a sum of 580 million pesos.

Coordination Requirements

Taking into consideration the need to reduce as much as possible the likelihood of a lack of coordination in action, a set of requirements was proposed adherence to which on the part of the other departments in the public sector is essential to the implementation of the proposed plan.

The requirements, which have been explained so that they may be analyzed and discussed on the appropriate echelons, involve the Secretariat of Communications and Transport, the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit, the Secretariat of Commerce, the Secretariat of Navy, the Secretariat of Government, the Secretariat of Patrimony and Industrial Development, and the Secretariat of Programming and Budget.

Generally speaking, they call for joint action by the various entities in the public sector, to deal in a coordinated fashion with the areas of transportation, customs, migration, sanitation, the harbormaster's office and port operations.

General Prospects

The alternative proposed for the transportation of materials and equipment will insure fulfillment of Mexican Petroleum's commitments, and allow for better use of its resources.

This proposal is also regarded as a contribution to the federal executive branch in the area of smooth movement of goods in the country.

The experience that will be accrued from the implementation of the new system will unquestionably prove valuable in other areas and for other sectors, specifically with regard to the policy of territorial decentralization established by the government of the republic, which has led to the decision to build the large industrial ports which the country needs.

Mexico is surrounded by seas; its 10,000 kilometers of coastline offer a natural alternative for transportation, and comprise a promising resource which will open up new prospects for the total development of the nation.

2909

C80: 3010

MDN DEFENDS POSITION IN MARCH COMMUNIQUE

PA281920 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Mar 80 pp 1, 9 PA

[Communique issued by the Executive Committee of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement on 21 March 1980--passages within slantlines published in boldface]

[Text] Our platform, read on 16 March at the Plideportivo Espana on the occasion of our movement's conversion into a political party, has been received with general enthusiasm, both because of its content and because our background, our firm determination and our revolutionary orientation are well known.

However, a number of attacks have been launched against us in the media, ranging from base insults to distortion of the facts with the objective of provoking a response in broad revolutionary sectors with which we are linked by bonds of brotherhood and with which we share a belief in unity, which is vital for the proper advance of the revolution.

We have acted naturally and in good faith in exercising our right and our duty to fight for the Nicaraguan people by defining our positions and proclaiming our beliefs for the good of all. For this reason, we feel obliged to express, clarify and reaffirm certain concepts.

March 16 is a historic date for our organization, since it is the anniversary of our founding. Therefore, there is no basis for speculating that our political meeting held on that date only related to the positions of sectors outside our party, especially when those positions can harm the revolutionary process of which we are a part and with which we identify completely. At that meeting we emphasized that /"we are not members of the opposition; we are a part of the true revolution."/

The plan of the Government of National Reconstruction emphatically recognizes the full right of all Nicaraguans to participate in politics, as well as to organize and operate political parties. Based on this undeniable right, our party, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement (MDN),

has carried out activities designed to strengthen its presence within the Nicaraguan revolution.

The MDN is a revolutionary party which acts within the revolution and firmly believes that /unity/ should prevail among all the organizations that are struggling with revolutionary tasks.

We firmly believe that the unity of all Nicaraguans who are honest and true to our patriotic duties was a decisive factor in our people's triumph over the dictatorship and that this unity is fundamental today when we are taking the first steps in the reconstruction of our fatherland and the creation of a new society.

This unity can be based only on an effective pluralism, sustained by equity, equality and mutual respect among the political forces that are participating in our revolutionary process.

It is logical that during the meeting on 16 March, in which our political platform was made public, we should have emphasized our ideological principles, which in no way run contrary to the democratic guidelines of the plan of the Government of National Reconstruction, and that we should have pointed out the deviations that could occur and that we are prepared to combat.

We recognize the prominent role of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] in the struggle for liberation and its leadership in the revolutionary process, as well as the participation of all patriotic and democratic sectors and the responsibility of those sectors to conduct our revolution in accordance with the plan of government that was the basis of the pluralist alliance. For its part, the MDN feels that it is completely free and has an absolute right to mention with pride its participation in those efforts.

The MDN believes that respect among political organizations which make up the revolutionary alliance is fundamental. For this reason, it condemns the attitude of a group of persons who attended the meeting on Sunday and who showed disrespect for the FSLN banner, which had been welcomed with lengthy and warm applause when its presence was announced from the rostrum. Similarly, the MDN vigorously rejects the vulgar and slanderous attacks launched on the same day in a station commentary by the Voice of Nicaragua, the official voice of the government junta, against our party and its undeniably upright stance of revolutionary struggle.

The MDN reaffirms its nationalism, anti-imperialism, anti-interventionism and its commitment to defend the interests of all the people, never the unjust privileges of minorities. The MDN is not and will never be the redoubt of reactionaries, but rather the legitimate banner of true revolutionaries who, regardless of their social origin, wish to guide our fatherland to a genuinely free Nicaraguan socialism.

Fatherland and freedom.

CSO: 3010

DANIEL ORTEGA EXPLAINS UNION FREEDOM TO COSEP

PA022157 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Apr 80 PA

[Excerpt] Commander Daniel Ortega has told the Superior Council of Private Business [COSEP] that we do not want workers to continue spontaneously occupying firms managed by people who do not agree with the line of the Sandinist Front. We don't control all unions, he added. We are looking for a coherent response to try to curb anarchy and find trade union unity.

Addressing COSEP during the meeting with the junta, Commander Ortega said: You are asking for trade union freedom which will mean that the peoples action movement and the Workers Front [FO] can operate. That freedom means that the unions that are promoting strikes and want a 100-percent pay raise can operate. We don't agree, he said. We cannot agree with that kind of trade union freedom because it is harmful to the economy and so we have persecuted the central of labor action and unity and the FO--not because we don't want Mr So-and-so to continue making profits, he added, but simply because we care about national development.

Commander of the Revolution Ortega told COSEP the political climate is not what is provoking the capital drain now. On the contrary the capital drain and the previous attitude of some businessmen has generated the hatred of the people. He said: We have been striving to find a reasonable response through the revolutionary process to this situation. However, the situation in Nicaragua under Somoza as far as relations between landowners and the peasants cannot be ignored.

Commander Ortega's irrefutable argument was that patriotic businessmen should have a change of mentality and cooperate with and enjoy seeing the good of the people and not only enjoy seeing their profits increase.

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

NATIONAL NEWSMEN ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Ramirez Addresses Newsmen

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 1 Mar 80 p 5

[Text] Among revolutionary, consistent, progressive and legitimate Nicaraguan journalists, the statement of belief in only that freedom of the press which is in the service of our Sandinist People's Revolution, because this is the main and vital goal for our liberated people, should cause no shame.

This revolutionary concept was voiced by Sergio Ramirez Mercado, of the National Reconstruction Government Junta, at the inauguration of the Aura Ortiz March by the free journalists of Nicaragua Friday afternoon.

And he went on to say: "We conceive of freedom of expression as a popular, democratic and revolutionary freedom.

"Our Sandinist People's Revolution does not accept freedom of the press which has nothing to do with the real process of transforming the Nicaraguan into the new man.

"We revolutionary journalists, and revolutionary journalism are not spontaneous, and did not develop since the triumph of 19 July 1979, for this new journalism had as its background the struggle and work designed to produce the final Sandinista triumph.

"Many of our journalist brothers were also militants in the Sandinista National Liberation Front. To them now falls the task of consolidating true freedom of expression, unrelated to group interests and the mercantile advertising agencies.

"The new revolutionary journalism must develop a freedom of expression which provides those who have never had one with a voice, representing the workers and the peasants among our people with a democratic press responding to the revolutionary interests."

Ramírez then spoke of the old Journalists' House, where the Aura Ortiz March began, as the incarnation of a double image of the past.

There was on the one hand the image of repression of the journalists, and on the other, the clear and honest aspect of the free and revolutionary journalist.

Describing the pro-Somoza fugitive Pablo Rener "zoologically," Ramírez Mercado stressed how this frontal battle by the journalists against the dictatorship made it possible for this once-batrachian establishment to become the Journalists' House today.

From this little old building, this humble Journalists' House, came resounding denunciations, above all the voice which revealed the political maneuvering of the sold-out heavy capitalists seeking to block the prospects of the Sandinista Revolution, which was about to raze the brutal and bloody tyranny of the likes of Somoza and his band of assassins and thieves, Mercado said.

Thanks to the denunciation revealed by "the 12" at a press conference in this little building, he added, and above all the broad reports of and attacks on these maneuvers by the patriotic journalists through the media, this knavery was frustrated.

The revolutionary journalists, plunged into the decisive struggle against the dictatorship, also made it possible to avoid the "mediation" maneuvers sponsored by the imperialists, designed solely to lead to another pact similar to that arranged by the traitor Fernando Aguero with the criminal Anastasio Somoza Debayle behind the backs of our Sandinista people in 1971.

All of these answers are showing the domestic reactionaries and the imperialists that there is a revolutionary journalism here in Nicaragua nurtured by past struggles and even the blood of our brotherly colleagues who gave their lives for this beautiful freedom we are enjoying in Sandinista Nicaragua today, he concluded.

UPN President's Address

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 1 Mar 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] "We do not want apologetic journalists, but true reporters who question and criticize within the framework of the Sandinista People's Revolution."

This statement was made by Dr Danilo Aguirre Solís, president of the UPN at the conclusion of the March of the Journalist Aura Ortiz at Pedro Joaquín Chamorro Square.

He said that journalism in this new situation is playing a basic role in contributing to the development of our revolutionary process.

He warned that the "sold-out" and "ill-intentioned" information media can do more damage than the nefarious Pinochet regime has done to the Chilean people.

Therefore, he maintained, it is necessary to strengthen the mass media with conscientious journalism.

He then stressed the combative struggle of the union most faithful to the revolution in the past.

In conclusion he announced that journalists will travel to every corner of our country to contribute to the events and phases of the literacy campaign.

And he added that "the journalists to participate in the literacy campaign."

Mercedes Mejia of the Luisa Amanda Espinoza Nicaraguan Women's Association, for her part, stressed that the journalist must play a role in the revolution.

"He must assume a class position," she noted during her address as a part of the Aura Ortiz Journalists' March, after recognizing the important role journalists played in the struggle against the dictatorship.

UPN Meeting Activities Reported

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Mar 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] Nicaraguan journalists confirmed their pledge to defend and consolidate our Sandinist People's Revolution with unity and decision at the Third Congress of the Nicaraguan Journalists' Union (UPN), which bears the name of Comrade Alejandro Bermudez Alegria.

Present at the ceremonies were the commander of the revolution and member of the national leadership of the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front], Bayardo Arce Castano, as well as Comrade Baldomero Alvarez, representing the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) and the Cuban Journalists' Union.

This congress of the UPN is of overwhelming importance, for conscientious journalists are celebrating National Newsmen's Day for the first time, confirming their intention to serve the interests of our people, consolidating their basic organization in order fully to carry out the principle of returning to our people the identity of which they were deprived for decades by the Somoza tyranny.

The third congress also paid homage to the heroic and martyred journalists who fell victims to assassination or in battle against the dictatorship, thus inscribing their names on the pages of history in winning freedom for our people.

The names of Manuel Diaz y Sotelo, Alvaro Montoya Lara, Aura Ortiz, Rigoberto Cabezas and others who faithfully carried out their militant promise were honored at the great gathering, as an example to journalists in the new fatherland today of how to carry out this pledge.

The main item on the agenda was the ratification of new bylaws of the trade union body of Nicaraguan journalists, the UPN, and the appointment of the nine secretaries making up the executive body of the organization.

New bylaws were drafted to meet the ~~current~~ ~~conditions~~ ~~currently existing~~ in free Nicaragua and as an expression of the journalist's concern with making an objective contribution to promoting and consolidating the revolutionary process.

Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce, for his part, representing the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, accompanied by the journalists present, went to the site where the U.S. journalist Bill Stewart was assassinated to pay homage to the internationalist spirit of the journalists who contributed to informing the world of our struggle even at the cost of their own lives.

Precisely at the spot where Stewart was shot dead, at the Riguero Bridge two blocks to the south, Commander Arce placed a floral offering on behalf of the national leadership of the FSLN.

Recognition of the Sons of Sandino

During his address to this important gathering, the commander of the revolution said that "we carry this recognition farther, to show that we Nicaraguans, we revolutionaries, we sons of Sandino are grateful to and thank those who stand with solidarity with our people."

Following the ceremony, the participants returned to the premises where the congress was being held to resume discussions.

Solidarity With the Journalists

Some 500 brigade members in the Literacy Workers' Militia (MOA) of the CST paid a visit to the UPN congress to demonstrate their solidarity with the Nicaraguan journalists.

The presence of the representatives of the MOA at this historic celebration of National Newsmen's Day indicates that the pressmen and the workers are maintaining that firm unity with which they also opposed the Somoza dictatorship.

Comrade Carlos Borge, representing the MOA, spoke briefly during the ceremony.

Journalist Ricardo Trejos Maldonado praised the attendance of the representatives of the MOA at the gathering of committed journalists.

Finally, the following secretariats of the UPN were approved:

Secretary general or president of the UPN, Danilo Aguirro S.

Organization and membership secretary, Manuel Eugarríos.

Secretary of finance, Rodolfo Tapia Molina and Maritza Cordero.

~~Education and culture~~, Juan Molina Palacios and William Grisby.

Foreign relations secretary, Carlos Garcia and Oswaldo Zuniga.

Press and publications secretary, Ignacio Briones Torres and Manuel Pinell.

Social welfare secretary, Clementina Rivas and Pablo E. Barreto.

Mass organizations secretary, Erwin Sanchez and Freddy Rostran.

Political orientation secretary, Xavier Reyes Alba and Lily Soto.

UPN Principles Announced

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 4 Mar 80 p 4

[Text] The following is the text of the UPN statement of principles approved at the Alejandro Bermudez Alegria Congress on 1 March:

"The Nicaraguan Journalists' Union is the professional body uniting the mass media workers of Nicaragua in a front for struggle to defend, promote, develop and advance the Sandinist People's Revolution and the primary function of the national reconstruction government which is to establish the foundations for the establishment of a regime of workers and peasants in freedom and justice, in which the exploitation of man by man will be abolished forever and which will work for the defense of the sovereignty and internal unity with the brotherly countries of Central and all of Latin America.

It regards freedom of information, along with freedom of opinion and freedom of expression, as one of the basic principles of democracy and a guarantee of the fulfillment of the goals of the profession within the real exercise of social responsibility.

It stresses, as the main attribute of the newswriters in Nicaragua, the postulate of struggle for the full exercise of national sovereignty, and it therefore reasserts its stand against imperialism, neocolonialism, apartheid, racism, including Zionism, and any form of oppression.

It maintains unity as an indestructible principle of the Sandinista revolutionary process, and in this connection it supports the efforts toward unity of both our leaders and our people on the national level, and within the community of media workers, supporting their joint effort to pursue the goals of ideological, social and professional advancement in order to carry out the historical tasks which fall to them in optimal fashion.

It recognizes the continental nature of the struggles of the peoples of Latin America against imperialist repression, which is reflected in exploitation, dependence and contempt for sovereignty, and it supports those governments making an effort to cast off the yoke of colonialism and neocolonialism.

It endorses the UNESCO declaration on the mass media, promulgated at the 20th session of the general conference held on 20 November 1978 in Paris, and the statement of principles by the Latin American Journalists' Federation (FELAP) promulgated on the day of its founding.

It declares its support of the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ), with headquarters in Prague, and the FELAP, with headquarters in Mexico, the principles, purposes and goals of which it adopts as its own and is working to put into practice.

It promises to devote its full effort to reporting, commenting upon, publicizing and analyzing the human rights set forth in the Universal Declaration, the International Pact on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Pact on Civil and Political Rights of the UN, and the American Declaration on the Rights and Duties of Man promulgated by the Organization of American States, so that they can be fully effected.

It regards the defense, sponsorship and publicizing of the strengthening of peace, international understanding and detente as an important part of its professional duties, along with the denunciation of all warmongering intention, aggression or threats by one state against another, and as a result it will wage campaigns to clarify the true scope and purpose of any international action posing a threat to world peace in any part of the world.

It appeals for the establishment and the maximal strengthening of friendly, understanding and comradely links with the journalists of the brotherly countries in Central America, to which end it will sponsor the exchange of

visits, dialog, meetings and congresses with all of them with a view to establishing programs for historical, economic, political and social research which will serve, through an exchange of information and experience, to bring these people as close as possible to the common goal of unity.

It regards the Journalism School at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua as a scientific center at which the harvest of journalists for the future is planted and nourished. Therefore it will work for its development, expansion and perfecting, both in theory and in practice, strengthening its ideological potential and increasing its economic sources such that it can establish laboratories, a library, modern data technology and teaching equipment of high quality, for the purpose of carrying out its task of training the new professionals in the field of journalism to serve the interests, achieve the aspirations and contribute to achieving the goals of the Sandinist revolution.

It postulates, as vitally necessary to the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, that all the enterprises involved in mass communications recognize and honor the right of the journalists working for them to participate with the power of decision in their reporting and editorial policy, a policy which must inevitably come within the framework of the Sandinist revolution.

5157

CSO: 3010

SANDINIST SAYS COMMUNISM NO ALTERNATIVE

San Pedro Sula LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Feb 80 p 24

[Text] "I do not believe communism is an alternative for Nicaragua because the only system that we have--the one that gave us the revolution--is the doctrine of Sandinism, a pure philosophy based on nationalism." This was stated by Professor Salvador Rocha of the technical education section, coordinator for the Nicaraguan Ministry of Education, at a regional seminar in Tegucigalpa.

Expanding his statements, the Nicaraguan official stressed that that "nationalist policy means that the Sandinist government has sufficient independence to choose which friendly countries it wants to maintain relations with without any commitments or impositions, an open policy...."

"We accepted aid from Cuba which has sent us teachers, but that does not involve any danger....They are not proselytizing us as many foreigners believe; they are not indoctrinating us in communism....That is false. It is true that they move about freely and are confused for Nicaraguans. However, we recognize that they and the Mexican, Costa Rican and Spanish teachers and other European technicians are helping us enormously."

Remote Places

He revealed that the Cuban teachers have gone to the most out-of-the-way places, the remotest corners, to teach the people to read and write "because they are trained for that and do it enthusiastically even when conditions are uncomfortable and deplorable."

"Sandinism is a Nicaraguan policy that asserts that Nicaragua is free in all aspects because we have suffered restrictions for many years....Therefore, I do not believe that any foreign policy can be an alternative for Nicaragua," he emphasized.

"Our fight now is to make teachers aware that they need to go teach in the mountains. In northern Nicaragua, there are more than 210,000 children being taught and there are teachers now where there had not been before, thanks to the help we have received."

He indicated that the initial plans included 80 Sandinist teachers who were sent throughout Nicaragua to meet with their colleagues, organized in brigades. They, in turn, have been training secondary students and anyone else who wants to help in the literacy campaign.

"Nicaragua has an illiteracy rate of 57.5 percent which we plan to eliminate; it has priority for our revolution," Rocha said. He denied that primers are being used that praise "Che" Guevara and other Cubans.

He said: "That is false; not even the leaders of the revolution are in them."

He indicated that private religious and lay schools are still in operation in Nicaragua but parents are only charged half the tuition so they are cheaper.

7717

CSO: 3010

BUSINESSMEN FEAR FOR FREE ENTERPRISE

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 7 Mar 80 p 1-23

[Article by Ramon Blanco Ascanio: "Business Concern in Nicaragua for Future of Free Enterprise"]

[Text] There is concern in the Nicaraguan business world about the future of free enterprise. Therefore, representatives of the private sector have asked the junta for guarantees and a law protecting the Nicaraguans.

Nevertheless, the private sector is optimistic and hopes that the Junta of National Reconstruction will give the free enterprise system indispensable importance and effectiveness as a priority in resolving the problems of that Central American country.

This was explained to EL UNIVERSAL yesterday by Dr Gilberto Serrano and Dr Jose Robelo, representatives of the Nicaraguan Chamber of Commerce. They are visiting our country in preparation for the Second International Convention of Chambers of Commerce.

Dr Serrano and Dr Robelo were accompanied by Dr Enrique Gonzalez Navas, engineer Nelson Belfort and Felix Cardona Moreno, directors of FEDECAMARAS [Association of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry]. They indicated that they were not on an official mission and had no concrete projects to discuss.

Dr Serrano said: "The First International Convention of Chambers of Commerce was held in Nicaragua. At that time, it was agreed to hold another international convention in either Caracas, Panama or Mexico. We are carrying out preparatory activities as we have done in other Central American countries and in Panama."

Before he explained the objectives of the international event, we asked Dr Serrano about the present economic situation in Nicaragua.

The Chamber of Commerce director stated that industry as well as commercial activity suffered enormous losses during the war. About 80 percent of the commercial establishments were looted or destroyed.

To give an example of the situation, Robelo stated that although 200,000 hectares of cotton were normally sown, only 25,000 were sown after the war. There were major declines in production of basic grains so there is a large deficit of food products. Coffee was least affected by the war but there were serious problems in harvesting because of a manpower shortage.

Nevertheless, the businessmen are optimistic and are supporting the 1980 economic plan of the Junta of National Reconstruction. It is expected that the private sector will be in charge of 80 percent of the plan.

Protective Law

Jose Robelo commented that the businessmen asked the junta for security in the development of their activities and proposed a protective law starting in July 1979. The junta promised them that it would study that request but there has been no response yet.

Robelo added that those guarantees included respect for private union organizations. Spokesmen for the junta told them that businessmen who paid their taxes, treated their workers right and did not make excessive profits could develop their activities in peace.

Dr Serrano interrupted to say that they have great interest in union freedom because they can negotiate with private labor organizations based on the financial ability of each enterprise. When the unions are controlled by the state, "the situation becomes intolerable," he said.

Directors of FEDECAMARAS

When Dr Serrano said that there was concern among Nicaraguan businessmen, Dr Enrique Gonzalez Navas of the National Council of FEDECAMARAS interrupted. He said:

"At FEDECAMARAS we feel great concern about what might happen in Nicaragua because we are wholehearted advocates of free enterprise. We are concerned about some symptoms in that Central American country."

What worrisome symptoms?

Dr Gonzalez Navas responded: "One is the fact that Cuba sent 2,000 teachers to teach the Nicaraguan people to read and write. This

Cuban participation makes us think of many things. Also we are concerned that the aid Venezuela is giving is not intended to stabilize a democracy but to strengthen a totalitarian regime."

Dr Gonzalez also repeated the need to respect private union organizations since there is a tendency in the Nicaraguan Government now to form a single national union under official auspices and leadership.

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NICARAGUA

BRIEFS

CONDOLENCES ON VIETNAMESE DEATH--Hanoi, VNA, 4 Apr--Following is a message from the Provisional Government Council for National Reconstruction (PGR) of Nicaragua: "Deeply grieved at the demise of respected Comrade Ton Duc Thang, we express our solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people in these sad moments of the death of an important revolutionary. We reaffirm our sincerest fraternal feelings for the Vietnamese Government and people." The delegation of the PGR and the Sandinist National Liberation Front of Nicaragua visiting the German Democratic Republic also sent a message of condolences to party General Secretary Le Duan. [Text] [OWO41703 Hanoi VNA in English 1558 GMT 4 Apr 80 OW]

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VENEZUELA

OFFSHORE GAS DEPOSIT DISCOVERED BY LAGOVEN

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 12 Mar 80 p 2-28

[Article by Victor Moreno]

[Text] Cumana, 10 March--With its Mejillones-1 well, LAGOVEN has discovered another major gas deposit in Sucre's Paria zone [see map].

Dr Guillermo Rodriguez Eraso, president of the company, said that the Mejillones-1 well, discoverer of the new gas deposit, represents the fifth of the offshore exploratory efforts undertaken by LAGOVEN, and is located north of the Paria coast some 32 kilometers from the Mejillones Bay.

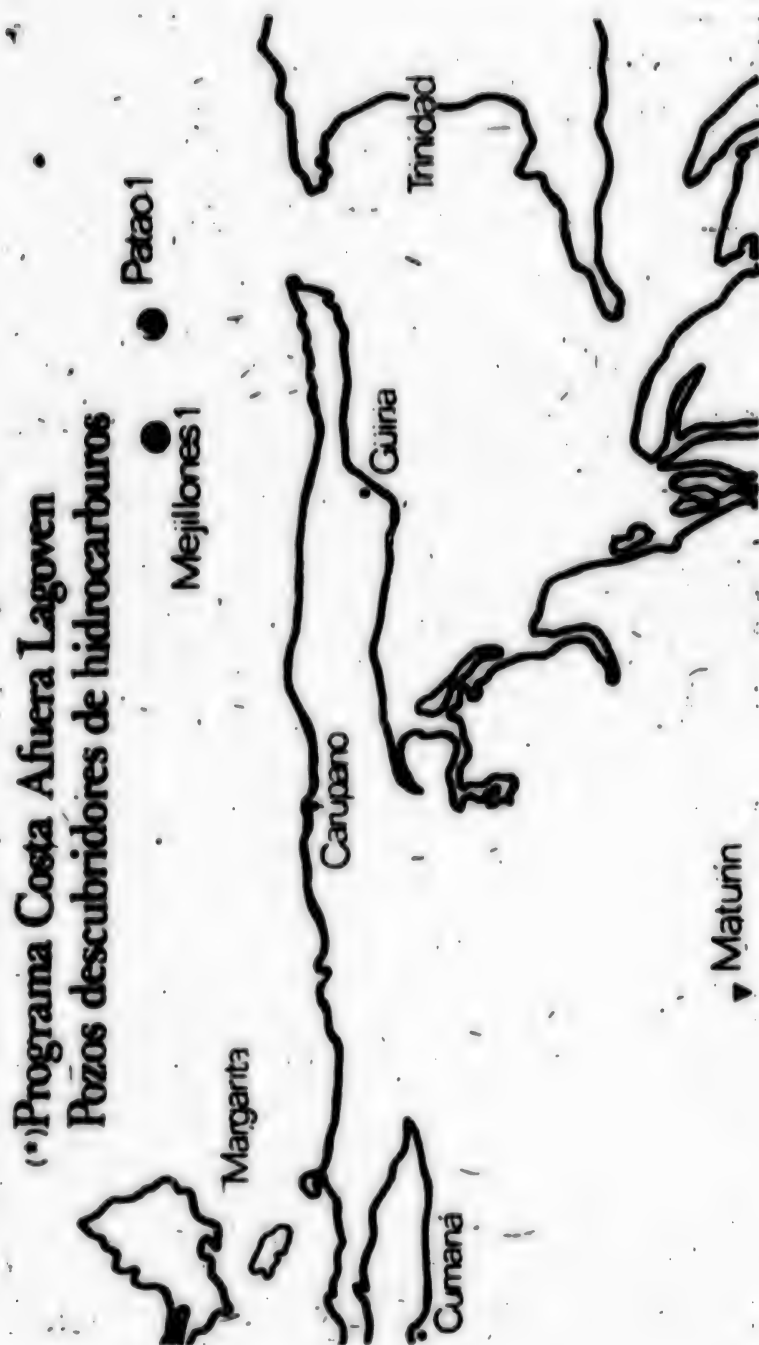
Rodriguez Eraso stated that this new deposit is now being evaluated but that initial indications point to a vast deposit comparable in size to the gas field discovered in the same zone some months ago by this operating subsidiary of PETROVEN [Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc] with the Patao-1 well [see map].

"These gas discoveries in the Paria zone," he said, "confirm the existence of considerable reserves of natural gas--which is used as a fuel and in other petrochemical industry processes, as well as for hydrogenating heavy crudes--in this region of the Venezuelan continental shelf."

The president of LAGOVEN pointed out that in addition to gas, the Mejillones-1 well had also produced condensates, thus confirming the presence of liquid hydrocarbons under the continental shelf in the eastern part of the country.

"LAGOVEN," he said, "will continue its offshore exploration program in the waters north of Paria, Sucre, and will shortly begin exploration in the Paria Gulf itself."

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* LAGOVEN Offshore Program - Hydrocarbons Discovery Wells [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL 8 Mar 80 p 1-12]

VENEZUELA

ORINOCO TAR BELT 1983, 1988 PRODUCTION GOALS DISCUSSED

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 10 Mar 80 p 1-20

[Text] Caracas, 9 March (VENPRES)--The Orinoco Tar Belt's deposits, in selected priority areas, may be considered conventional, according to Carlos Borregales, PETROVEN [Venezuelan Petroleum, Inc] coordinator of the Belt's evaluation and development program, in that its crude can be recovered using known methods.

"Tests to date indicate a cold production rate of 50-600 barrels a day per well over a range of reservoir stratum thicknesses," he added.

"It has been proven also that the heaviest crude, with an API gravity of 8, can be produced at relatively high rates of from 50 to 500 barrels a day depending on the reservoir stratum thickness," he said.

"The promising results obtained in preliminary production tests," said the Belt coordinator, "together with the pilot tests on alternated steam-injection carried out in the Jobo, Morichal and Pilon fields northeast of the Belt, support the statement that Tar Belt production can be started, using conventional techniques that are already known and being applied in the heavy-oil fields currently being exploited in Venezuela.

"The production rates and characteristics of the crudes in the Cerro Negro-Hamaca area are similar to those of the Pilon, Morichal, Melones, Miga and Oveja fields, which are situated at the northeast end of the Belt and which are currently producing some 120,000 barrels a day of crude between 8 and 15 degrees API," he added.

He stated that recovery of this crude, using the indicated production methods, could amount to 8 percent of the total originally in situ, and that by the use of compaction, which is also a valid production technique, this percentage could be substantially augmented.

Thus, the problems involved in the exploitation of crude of this type are technological in nature and require only economic and political decisions, he asserted.

Borregales stated that, with the object of seriously planning the Belt's development and at the same time to complete a detailed evaluation of its vast resources, PETROVEN, about the middle of 1979, embarked upon an intensive program of exploration designed to complete the entire regional exploration of the Belt by 1983.

He said, "Priority areas were designated, based on the volume of crude in situ and its quality, to define this program, which covers the running of 16,000 kilometers of seismic surveys and the drilling of 520 wells.

"Similarly, to lay out the 1980-1984 drilling program, the Cerro Negro, Hamaca, Zuata and Machete zones were selected as the priority areas, whose evaluation will require the drilling of an estimated total of 380 wells."

This drilling program, initiated in January of this year, will make it possible to pinpoint more definitively and investigate more thoroughly the areas in which exploitation is to begin.

The developmental programs being proposed for the evaluation of the Orinoco Tar Belt will make possible a clear determination as to whether, by the end of the century, the Belt can produce, as is being hoped, 1 million barrels daily.

For the short term, the program calls for, on the one hand, the development of a 1988 production potential of 125,000 barrels a day of upgraded crude in the southern zone of Monagas, a project assigned to LAGOVEN, and on the other hand, the development of a 1983 production potential of 50,000 and 75,000 barrels a day respectively in the southern zone of Anzoategui. The PETROVEN coordinator said that this potential will make use of the infrastructure that MENEVEN already has in the region.

In the two areas selected for the start of exploitation, secondary-recovery thermal processes, such as alternated steam-injection, continuous steam-injection, and in situ combustion, will be tried out.

Operations were started this year on two pilot projects in Monagas: one using alternated steam-injection, and the other, continuous steam-injection.

To achieve the Belt evaluation program's near term objectives, the projects being implemented will utilize existing technologies that have already been tested in commercial operations and will contract the services of highly experienced firms for the design, construction and project management phases.

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MILITARY FORCE TO GUARD OIL CENTERS SUGGESTED

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 10 Mar 80 p 1-15

[Article by J. V.]

[Text] The guarding of our oil centers by a Venezuelan Army deterrent force is an unpostponable necessity, according to Leonardo Montiel Ortega.

The oil expert and former presidential candidate expresses surprise that at a time as politically and militarily agitated as the present, and with the greedy eyes of the big powers turned toward energy sources, the Venezuelan oil wells are completely devoid of military protection.

"The current world crisis," he affirms, "smells of petroleum. One of the USSR's objectives in invading Afghanistan is to take over the Persian Gulf and control the gas deposits in the area."

According to his calculations, the Soviet Union will be facing an oil shortage along about 1985, and, among other things, will have difficulty in supplying Cuba as well.

"And in this world of shortages, the countries that have oil should be taking steps to safeguard themselves against the 'sharks.' But in Venezuela, there is not a single soldier guarding our deposits... What I am proposing are deterrent steps designed to dissuade anyone who might feel tempted to take over our oil wells."

Abounding in details to that effect, Montiel Ortega pointed out that in the hypothetical case that the USSR were to succeed in taking control of the Ormuz Straits, the supply of Arab oil to the Western world would be sealed off. In this event, Venezuela would be the only oil-exporting country to which the United States and Brazil could turn, and these two countries cannot be expected to resign themselves to total paralysis for lack of fuel.

At that extremely critical point, Venezuela would find itself subjected to tremendous pressures, since it could not, alone, supply the energy needs of those countries.

"In a conflictual situation of that nature, with a marked deterioration of the oil supply, a resort to the grab technique is to be expected, and that could take us to the point of collapse. I therefore propose that, as a fundamental deterrent, a control be established over the catastrophic factor in this situation. I propose, that is, that we decide on the necessary steps to destroy our oil wells in the event a war machine should threaten us.

"The security of Venezuelan territory," he added, "must take precedence in our development planning; and this objective," he concluded, "imposes as an indispensable step, from all viewpoints, the military safeguarding of our oil deposits and the establishment of deterrent forces."

Dr Leonardo Montiel Ortega also referred to the technological agreement signed recently between the governments of Venezuela and the United States.

In this regard, he said that it opens the prospects of a hemispherical treatment of the problem, in that it could lead President Carter to nationalize U. S. imports of oil.

He added that in a study he will be presenting as part of a post-graduate course at the University of Santa Maria, he sets forth the need for agreements of this kind in relation to a raw material of the strategic importance of oil for the Western world.

"For the first time," he said, "the United States considers Venezuelan oil to be more important to its national security than Arab crude. And this means that government-to-government negotiations are about to begin, which are the fundamental basis of the new politics of oil."

The study will be presented by Leonardo Montiel Ortega on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 7:30 to 8:30 p m over a period of 8 weeks. Minister of Energy and Mines Humberto Calderon Berti and other oil experts, including Drs Humberto Pedaloza and Jose Giacoppini Zarraga, will also participate.

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VENEZUELA

ARMED GROUPS ATTACK FARMS IN GUARICO, ANZOATEGUI

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 2-22

[Text] Onoto, Anzoategui, 17 March (INNAC)--Intensive military mobilization has been observed in the boundary zones of Anzoategui and Guarico, where groups of presumed irregulars have been making incursions into ranches and other farm property.

Unofficial sources have reported that army troops (cavalry) have gone into the mountains in pursuit of the armed bands which have reappeared.

"This is the same cell which had its center of operations in Anzoategui in earlier years, but now it has moved toward the plains region of Guarico," some individuals with whom we talked said here.

[Question] Who commands the group?

[Answer] We do not know, but it is said that it is Gabriel Puerta, who knows this zone, for he is a native of Anzoategui, specifically the settlement of El Chaparro.

[Question] What about the raids on the ranches and farms?

Residents of the area told us that this has been happening for some months, and they warned that no one has dared to report it for fear of reprisals from "these people." No one there wants to get involved, they added.

The Guerrilla Triangle

The whole area delimited by the towns of Aragua de Barcelona, Chaparro and Onoto is now known solely as "the guerrilla triangle."

"Here they have the advantage of the dense vegetation and the lakes which serve to water the cattle," several persons said.

They then recalled that some years ago, another group of irregulars maintained a center of operations for a long time in the hills of Santa Rosa de Ocopia, in the central part of Anzoategui.

"But it seems that army harrassment forced them to move. Their last strike was on land owned by the Lepage family in Santa Rosa. Dr Octavio Lepage, who in that era served as minister of internal relations, is a member of that family."

Farmers' Fear

Fear has now developed among the livestock breeders and owners of other property in parts of Anzoategui and Guarico because of the presence of the armed groups.

"Uncertainty has returned to the rural sector. It becomes difficult to go on working with these conditions," a number of breeders and producers have now warned.

[Question] Is there danger?

Our interlocutors confirmed this unanimously.

"There is no one who can guarantee our personal security and therefore we are abandoning our property."

[Question] What is happening now?

[Answer] Inevitably we are proceeding toward ruin. In this way we will lose our great effort and many years of labor.

[Question] What about the agreement with the government bodies?

This question glowed like a spark.

One of the livestock breeders answered with a verse on the tip of his tongue.

"It seems that it is here that the pig's tail will be twisted--if we do not produce, how can we pay."

Another said that he would have to give up his ranch, and a third said the same:

"My property is in the same position, but I am not keeping it up any longer."

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VENEZUELA

TECHNICIANS RESIGN FROM MINES, ENERGY MINISTRY

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 18 Mar 80 p 1-17

[Text] Technicians and professional workers at the Ministry of Energy and Mines have revealed that in that department an atmosphere of uncertainty and unease which has led to an alarming series of resignations, reaching a total of 50 in the past 2 months.

In a lengthy document submitted to the minister of energy and mines, Dr Humberto Calderon Berti, for his consideration, the Inter-Union and Inter-Departmental Commission at that ministry set forth a series of administrative and budgetary shortcomings and anomalies which are weakening the role of this important body in the oil industry.

They stated that currently a hindrance has been created by the profound crisis affecting not only the professional and technical workers at the ministry but the entire country, since it affects the proper advance of the oil sector, the basis and support of the national economy.

From the administrative point of view, they noted that no overall policy is being pursued for the energy and mining sector.

They warned that if indeed a number of public statements have been made about various aspects of the policy of the present administration in this sector, the ministry administration has in practice been basically oriented toward dealing with problems pertaining to the international oil policy, neglecting major elements having to do with the domestic energy situation (prices, conservation, exploration and development of resources other than oil), geological and mining activities and everything pertaining to alternative energy sources.

"Thus," they noted, "an integral energy and mining policy is not being pursued, and furthermore the guidelines and mechanisms for its concrete application in the near future are not known, all of this reflecting the lack of action by the Ministry of Energy and Mines in major sectors within its jurisdiction."

They added that there is a lack of continuity and consistency in the ministry's activities.

By way of example, the document said that in the absence of a titular ministry, the order of priorities was changed, entailing a loss of continuity in the activities of the ministry.

Breakdown in Organizational Structure

The ministry commission stated that there has been an organizational breakdown in the adoption of decisions on the leadership level, which are divorced from the activities of the technical-administrative personnel at the ministry.

"This breakdown can even be seen on the level of the highest ministry authorities and the sectorial directors. On the ministry level there is a lack of communication with the technical level, giving rise to an atmosphere of uncertainty and resulting in the lack of clearly defined plans and programs."

This document said that the ministry employees have learned of a series of processes such as reorganization of the ministry, reduction of personnel, changes in offices, geographic decentralization, transfer of departments and changes of leadership personnel through the mass communications media, creating an atmosphere of unnecessary concern which will prevent the proper development of ministerial activities.

On the other hand, it was stressed that the professional and technical personnel at the ministry are lacking clearly defined work plans and programs to guide their activities.

"The atmosphere of awaiting plans and programs to be carried out which drags interminably is such that the employees feel underemployed and see their activities as senseless, with the resulting reduction in ministerial activities. This is one of the reasons for the frustration and departure of the professional and technical workers and other employees."

Deteriorating Labor Conditions

The document said that the "service premiums" designed to balance in part the great differential between the wage levels in national industries and the public body entrusted with directing, planning and controlling that industry have been unexpectedly reduced.

The document commented that despite the fact that the conditions which led to the allocation of these premiums continue to exist and despite the fact that the present administration has recommended their continuation, they were reduced without notice at the beginning of the year, allegedly for budgetary reasons.

The document added that the energy and mines budget, although the smallest in the central administration, was reduced by about 50 million bolivares, making it impossible to cover current expenditures, affecting service premiums and those pertaining to special studies and projects.

"We find ourselves," the writer said, "faced with paralysis, in terms of personnel movement (transfers, promotions and new contracts), serious limitations on the continuation of studies and projects, lack of financial resources for courses, scholarships and travel expenses, and even a shortage of basic working tools. However, we note that the same criteria of austerity demanded of other employees and technicians are not being observed on the higher levels."

The document then went on to list a series of abnormalities in working conditions such as the lack of air conditioning, cleaning procedures, equipment, sanitary facilities, etc.

In its conclusion, the Inter-Union and Inter-Departmental Commission of the Ministry of Energy and Mines stressed that this entire situation has created a negative atmosphere causing an alarming series of resignations and transfers to other bodies, coming to a total of more than 50 departures in the past 2 months.

They stated that the departures involve skilled personnel with experience difficult to replace, above all when it comes to a massive process leading to the flight of data and a lack of continuity in its projects.

They reiterated the need to strengthen the ministry so that it can carry out its functions, vital to the economy of the country, and thus the urgent need to improve working conditions for the professional and technical workers employed at the ministry, so as to avoid mass resignations.

In conclusion they proposed: 1--That a discussion in depth of the consequences to the country of this situation be undertaken; 2--That the goals and functions falling to the Ministry of Energy and Mines as a national executive body, as well as those falling to industry, be clearly defined; and 3--That the labor policy of the ministry be reviewed with a view not only to fulfilling the duties assigned by law, but also the use of the training personnel at the ministry in an environment favoring the better development of their creative abilities to the benefit of the Venezuelan nation.

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VENEZUELA

SANTO DOMINGO HYDROELECTRIC PLANT FAILS TO PRODUCE

Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 17 Mar 80 p 2-32

[Article by Boaneg Pernia R.: "Reservoir Feeding Santo Domingo Dam Turbines Empty"]

[Text] Santo Domingo--The Santo Domingo dam, which supplies the Jose Antonio Paez hydroelectric plant, has suffered a critical drop in water level. The limited volume will only supply one of the turbines, which can only generate a part of the plant's potential.

The Santo Domingo dam rises like a concrete giant between high rocks. It is a hydroelectric project costing millions which due to governmental negligence since it was commissioned during the Rafael Caldera administration has failed to produce the megawatt production results for which it was built. Today its future is threatened entirely, again due to the action of government bodies which has failed to control the high basins of the river which provide the water.

Two Moribund Rivers

The reservoir of the General Jose Antonio Paez Dam is practically dry. With the limited water it can supply, only one turbine can be operated. With a production capacity of 600,000 kilowatts, only 40,000 can be produced, and this does not suffice to overcome the current crisis in which the states of Tachira, Merida, Trujillo and Barinas are suffering. Since the summer began, 3 turbines, with a production capacity of 180,000 kilowatts, have not been functioning.

This entire problem is due to irresponsibility in that powerful interests have been allowed to pursue the mass destruction of renewable natural resources in the protective zones and high basins of the Santo Domingo and Aracay Rivers, with the result that currently a costly hydroelectric project is practically inoperative for lack of a vital resource, and two water-courses are now moribund.

Six Months' Activity

The Santo Domingo dam, which is part, linked by a series of infrastructure projects, of the General Jose Antonio Paez Hydroelectric Plant, has an effective operational season of 6 months in the winter. During the other 6 months of the year, only 1 of the 4 turbines can be operated due to lack of water.

This costly project built to provide electricity is situated opposite the right bank of the Santo Domingo River, at the site of the confluence with the Aracay River, in territory which is a part of the Bolivar district of Barinas.

The attention of a visitor is caught by the double-arch dam which is 210 meters long at the top and has a maximal height of 70 meters. The reservoir can contain 2.6 million cubic meters at the 1,585.5 mark.

Sedimentation in the Reservoir

Sedimentation is a problem which is contributing to the reduction of the dam's productive capacity. Large mounds of sand can be seen within the reservoir, carried down by the Santo Domingo and Aracay Rivers, since erosion problems have begun to affect the upper slopes. This sedimentation covers a large part of the area intended for water storage, and on a number of occasions, because it is very fine sand, has damaged much of the costly apparatus.

Low Reservoir Level

When the water level of the dam is normal in the winter season, it reaches a marker 1,585.5 meters above sea level. Currently the hydroelectric plant is operating at the 1,571 marker, a difference of 14.5 meters, accounting for a deficit of 2 million cubic liters of water. The technical data established for the zone indicate that the normal flow of the Santo Domingo and Aracay Rivers during the rainy season falls between 32 and 34 cubic meters per second, which allows the plant to function at very good capacity. The volume of water currently reaching the reservoir ranges between 3 and 6 liters per second. Engineer Luis Alfonso Flores, in charge of the General Jose Antonio Paez Plant, told this reporter that a turbine consumes approximately 8.75 cubic meters of water per second, in order to generate 60 megawatts, so that the present volume of water is not enough to keep the turbine functioning 24 hours a day.

The General Jose Antonio Paez Plant is operating at so-called peak hours, in other words between 1700 and 2200 hours. The day's operations are limited to the volume of water in the reservoir. The work of producing electricity is done by the thermoelectric plants in La Fria, San Lorenzo and Las Morochas. During the nighttime hours the turbine which functions can generate 60,000 kilowatts, engineer Flores said.

Efforts to Increase Capacity

Engineer Flores said that some work is currently being done on the building of sluice gates which will make it possible to increase the water storage capacity of the reservoir. It has a capacity of 3 million cubic meters, but the useful capacity comes to only 2,400,000 cubic meters currently. The building of the sluice gates on the spillway level will make it possible to increase the storage volume to 6 million cubic meters of water, raising the useful capacity of the dam by 120 percent. If water is accumulated in summer we will not have many problems in this season.

Current Kilowatt Deficit

On the other hand, according to the information obtained today from engineer Gustavo Nino, the CADAPE [Electrical Administration and Development Company] official in charge at Los Andes, there is currently a deficit of 20,000 kilowatts. We are now obtaining 135,000 kilowatts from the thermoelectric plant--50,000 kilowatts from the central plant and 80,000 from the Santo Domingo plant. This is not enough to meet the present demand in the Los Andes region, for which reason electrical service must be rationed in view of the serious water shortage affecting the Paez plant.

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BRIEFS

CHANGES IN REFINING METHODS--Arevalo Guzman Reyes, general director of the Hydrocarbons Department of the Energy and Mines Ministry, has stated that all the programs for changing the refining methods in the oil industry are on schedule. Guzman said there is no delay in these programs and as an example pointed to the one at the Cardon refinery, which began functioning this year. He said the refining method change program is being prepared in Puerto la Cruz and plans for installing a refinery to process heavy crude in Monagas State are under study. Guzman noted that the Cardon refinery is adding a daily production capacity of 13,000 barrels of gasoline to the country. The change program at Cardon will conclude in 1982 with the installation of the (new cracking) unit. Guzman said the program at the Palito refinery will be completed in June of next year. Guzman noted that the program for the Amuay refinery will be completed in March 1982. This will result in an additional daily production of 60,000 barrels. [Excerpts] [PA020334 Caracas Radio Continente Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 1 Apr 80 PA]

PUBLIC EXPENDITURE IN 1979--Statistics released by the Ministry of Finance indicate that the level of consolidated public expenditure, excluding only the oil industry, stood at 144 billion 490 million bolivares at the end of 1979, showing an absolute increase of 20 billion 200 million bolivares over the level reached in 1978, when consolidated public expenditure, also excluding oil, came to 124 billion 210 million bolivares. Finance reported in this connection that the situation was as follows in 1979: the so-called "paid fiscal expenditures" came to 49 billion 272 million bolivares, "actual fiscal expenditures" to 52 billion 319 million bolivares, and consolidated public expenditure to 144 billion 490 million. In 1978 the situation was as follows: paid fiscal expenditures, 49 billion 902 million bolivares; actual fiscal expenditures, 57 billion 244 million; and consolidated public expenditures, 124 billion 210 million. According to the finance ministry, the situation was as follows in 1977: paid fiscal expenditures, 52 billion 41 million bolivares; actual fiscal expenditures, 55 billion 188 million; and consolidated public expenditure, 107 billion 480 million bolivares, respectively. The finance ministry also indicated that overall consumption in 1979 reached 138 billion 874 million bolivares. Gross fixed investment totaled 72 billion 310 million and "variations in stocks" 2 billion 300 million bolivares, with a total of 211 billion 484 million for "aggregate domestic demand," showing a relative increase of 11.6 percent in comparison to the situation in 1978. [Text] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 14 Mar 80 p 1] 5157

OIL INDUSTRY WORKERS--San Cristobal, March (Special)--By 1984 the oil industry will be employing a total of 43,000 workers, in anticipation of which it has worked out a human resources program based on the objectives of forecasting, retaining, recruiting, developing, motivating and utilizing these resources to meet its future needs. This information was disclosed by economist Hector Riquezes, head of PEQUIVEN [Petrochemical Company of Venezuela], during the 5th Oil Seminar for Journalists, which opened today in San Cristobal. The speaker said, "Of course, this human resources program is designed to meet the oil industry's fundamental and primary aims of ensuring the industry's profitability, efficiency and growth." He emphasized that the basis of this program is the industry's operating and technical requirements forecast and its historical rate of personnel turnover. He affirmed that "our company's pension plan is second to none," and that the oil industry employs people having in mind the excellent career opportunities it offers, which are made possible by and designed into its structure. In support of this basic intent, he said, the industry aims at all times to provide the best possible working environment and full dissemination of work rules and regulations. During his talk, Dr Riquezes stated that, through the dissemination of its rules and regulations, the company's employees are made aware of the rules of the game and are encouraged to stay with the team. Going still further, the industry spokesman said that with the intent of retaining its personnel the industry provides very well designed pension plans, and he also mentioned its hospitalization plans, accident and life insurance plans, savings and housing plans, and fideicommissum plans. [Excerpts] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 3 Mar 80 p 2-3] 9399

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